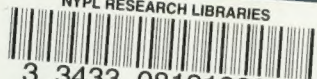


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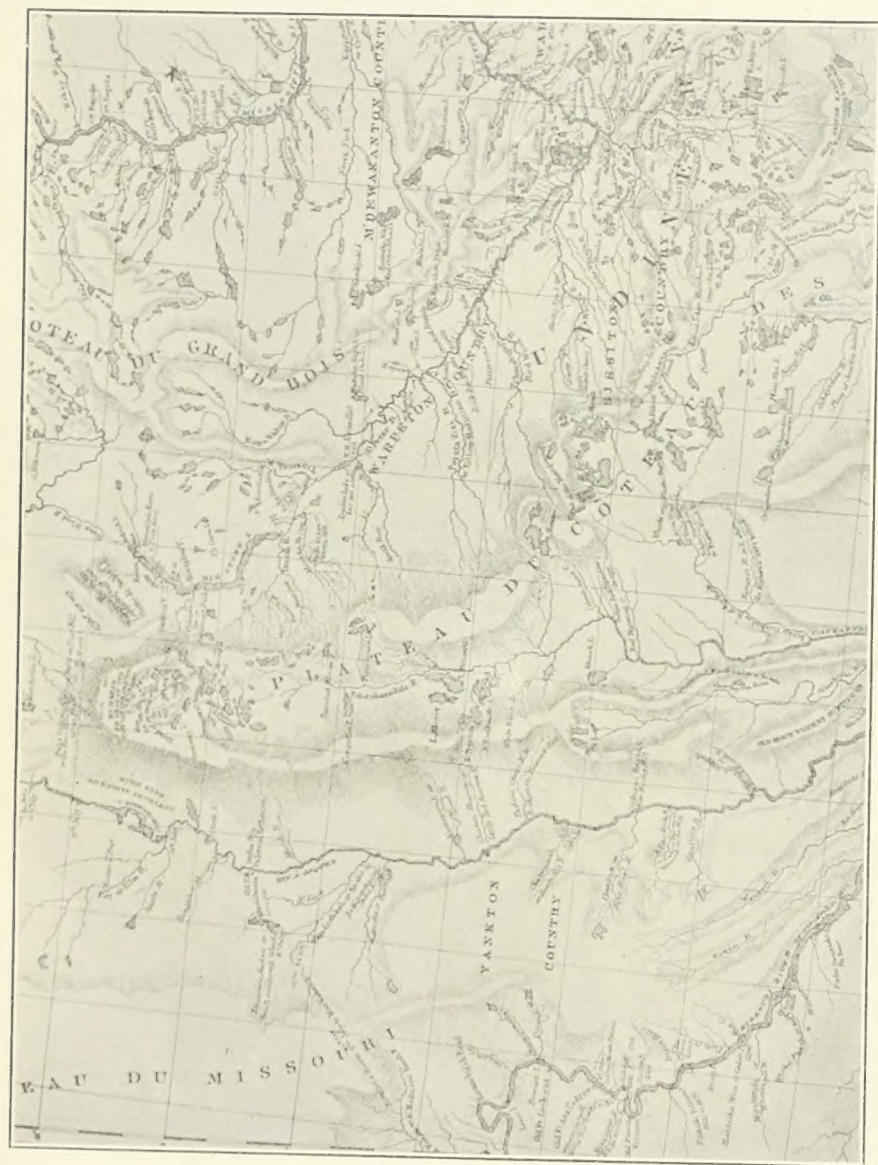


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NICOLLET'S MAP

Published in 1843. Several Physical Features of Rock and Pipestone Counties
Are Shown.

AN ILLUSTRATED HISTORY
OF THE COUNTIES OF
ROCK AND PIPESTONE
MINNESOTA



By ARTHUR P. ROSE

MEMBER OF THE MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

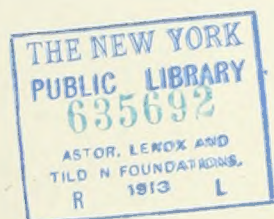
Author of the Histories of
NOBLES COUNTY
JACKSON COUNTY, ETC

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FOREWORD

WHEN one considers the counties of Rock and Pipestone in their present state of development, it is hard to realize that they have been brought to this stage in so short a time. The white man's history of these counties has taken place in the lifetime of a man now forty-five years of age; when he was born there was not a resident in either county and there never had been. Yet, while their history extends back to no great antiquity, interesting events have occurred—events which should be recorded and preserved.

It is for this purpose that this volume is put forth. It is the only history of Rock and Pipestone counties ever published, and the material for its compilation has been secured from original sources. Friendly coadjutors have assisted in its preparation. The author has consulted and quoted from the writings of Hon. Warren Upham, secretary of the Minnesota Historical society, from George Catlin's "North American Indians," from "Minnesota in Three Centuries," recently published, from the publications of the Minnesota Geological Survey, and from many other authorities. The files of the local newspapers have been of inestimable value in supplying authentic data, especially the files of those pioneer journals, the Rock County Herald and the Pipestone County Star. Without them much of historical importance must have remained unrecorded. Scores of pioneer residents of the two counties have interested themselves in the work to the extent of devoting time to the detailing of early day events. Special mention is due the assistance given by Mr. C. H. Bennett, of Pipestone.

For the purpose of revising and suggesting improvements, the manuscript of the historical section of the work was reviewed by committees in each county, those in Rock county being Messrs. E. N. Darling, Charles A. Reynolds and Niels Jacobson, and those in Pipestone county, Messrs. C. H. Bennett and Major D. E. Runals and Dr. W. J. Taylor. Those gentlemen read the manuscript, made several suggestions for improvement, and indorsed the work as an impartial, comprehensive and substantially accurate record of events from the earliest days to the present time.

In the work of gathering the data the author has been ably assisted by Messrs. P. D. Moore, J. P. Nelson and Stanley G. Swanberg.

Probably no historical work was ever put to press which entirely satisfied its author. There are so many pitfalls in the path of him who seeks to record the events of the past; the human mind is so prone to err in recalling names and dates of a former day. So it happens that the writer of local history, compiling his story from data of which only a part can be verified, knows that there must be errors, albeit he may have exercised the greatest care. With no apologies, but with this brief explanation and the realization that the work is not perfect, this history of Rock and Pipestone counties is put forth.

Luverne, Minnesota, July, 1911.

ARTHUR P. ROSE.

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HISTORY OF
ROCK COUNTY
MINNESOTA

CHAPTER I.

THE RED MAN'S DAY—1838-1866.

CAN the reader let his imagination take him back some one hundred million years, when the history of Rock county begins? If so, picture the earth as a huge mass of molten fire, seething, writhing and grinding for countless thousands of years before it should become a suitable abiding place for any living thing. Contained in this vast caldron were many of the elements that form the present day speck on the earth's surface that we designate Rock county, Minnesota.

Archaeologists and geologists tell us that in time this huge ball of fire cooled and the earth's crust was formed, the eventful period in our history occupying a space of time roughly estimated at 50,000,000 years, designated as the Archæan or Beginning era. The early part of this period is termed Azoic, from the absence of any evidence that the earth or the sea had either plant or animal life. Following came the Paleozoic time, covering a period of something like 36,000,000 years, an era characterized by ancient types of life, unknown today.

The next period is known as the Mesozoic time, covering the comparatively short time of 9,000,000 years, during the greater part of which period our county was land area. The floras and faunas of this age were gradually chang-

ing from their primitive and ancient character of the Paleozoic time, but had not yet attained the comparatively modern forms of the succeeding era. In late Mesozoic days the greater part of Minnesota was depressed beneath the sea, as it had been in ages past.

The Cenozoic time, some 3,000,000 years in length, followed, during which that part of the earth's surface now known as Minnesota was lifted from the sea, and it has ever since remained above the water. During this time there came into existence the present types of life, replacing those of the earlier periods. Man was created, dispersed over the earth, and developed into the several colors and races.

Most wonderful and most recent of the wonders occurring in the making of our earth was the Ice age, which began some 75,000 or 100,000 years ago and ceased only from 6000 to 10,000 years ago. Prior to the beginning of this time the earth had been uniformly warm or temperate, but about the time mentioned the northern part of North America and northern Europe became enveloped with thick sheets of snow and ice, probably caused by the uplifting of the land (the surface was then from 2000 to 3000 feet higher than now) into extensive plateaus, which received

snowfall throughout the year. The lower latitudes retained the temperate climate, thus permitting the plant and animal life to survive until the melting of the ice sheets again permitted the occupancy of the northern latitudes. Under the weight of the vast glaciers the land sank to its present level, the surface was ground down and evened off and made practically as we find it today. With the sinking of the land came the gradual melting of the glaciers, though with numerous pauses and probably slight readvances.

During these millions of years many interesting things happened in Rock county—events which were never witnessed by mortal eye, events which the most vivid imagination cannot conceive. From a part of the seething, molten mass that composed the earth during the millions of years about which even the geologists hardly dare venture a guess Rock county became a part of the earth's surface in the process of cooling. Thereafter it was successively covered with the waters of the sea, was raised from the depths to a great altitude, and was crushed back by the weight of the vast ice sheets. During these various periods its topographical features were formed, many changes resulting before nature had them fashioned to her liking. Soil was spread over the surface and the huge red rock formations were deposited where we now find them; plant and animal life came into existence; ridges and hills were formed by the action of the glaciers; a few depressions were left, where are now the lakes and ponds; the waters from the melting ice sought avenues of escape and formed the rivers and creeks.

¹Traces of man's presence during this period have been found in the flood plain of the Mississippi river at Little Falls, Minnesota, and in other parts of the United States.

²It was formerly thought by many archaeologists, twenty-five to fifty years ago, that the mounds of the Ohio and Mississippi val-

When Rock county was first inhabited by the human species is unknown. Archaeologists cannot even hazard a guess when the American continent was first inhabited. There has been discovered evidence that man lived upon North American soil during the decline and closing days of the Ice age,¹ some 6000 to 10,000 years ago, and probably had done so for a much longer period. Concerning the original peopling of North America, Warren Upham, A. M., D. Sc., in Minnesota in Three Centuries, says:

The original peopling of America appears to have taken place far longer ago by migration from northeastern Asia during the early Quarternay of Ozarkian epoch of general uplift of northern regions which immediately preceded the Ice age, and which continued through the early and probably the greater part of that age. Then land undoubtedly extended across the present area of Behring sea.

During Ozarkian time and the long early part of the Glacial period, wandering tribes, migrating for better food supplies or to escape from enemies, could have crossed on land from Asia to Alaska, and could have advanced south to Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego, occupying all the ground (excepting the ice covered area) that is now, or was in pre-Columbian times, the home of the American race. It is not improbable, too, that another line of very ancient migration, in the same early Pleistocene or Quaternary time, passed from western Europe by the Faroe islands, Iceland and Greenland, to our continent.

When civilized man first came to the new world he found it peopled with a savage race which he called Indians. They had no knowledge of their own ancestry nor of any peoples who may have preceded them. Whether or not this race supplanted one of a higher civilization is a question upon which authorities disagree.² The only sources of information available concerning the early inhabitants are the implements of warfare and do-

leys were built by a prehistoric people, distinct from the Indians and further advanced in agriculture and the arts of civilization. To that ancient people the name of Mound Builders was given, and it was supposed that they were driven southward into Mexico by incursions of the Indian tribes that were found in our country at the first coming of white

mestic use they made, found in burial places and elsewhere in the land. The Mississippi valley is prolific in mounds—the burial places of these ancient peoples,—many having been found and excavated in Minnesota.

In Rock county a number have been located and described, but if any have been excavated the fact is not known. In August, 1889, Prof. T. H. Lewis, an archaeologist of St. Paul, visited the county and examined the works of the Mound Builders, so called. He found two mounds on the northeast quarter of section 8, Vienna township, two groups of ten mounds each on section 36, Luverne township, a group of twelve on the west side of Rock river south of Ash-creek, and a group of five on the east side of the same stream near the old Ash-creek mill.³

While we have little knowledge of the very early peoples who inhabited our state, from the middle of the seventeenth century, when white men first came to the northwest, we can trace the history of the Indian tribes quite accurately. When explorers first came to the upper Mississippi country the Sioux and Cree Indians ranged through the northern wooded country between Lake Superior and the Red river, whence they were driven during the next century, the Sioux to the south and the Crees to the north, by the aggressive Ojibways or Chippewas, who had become first known to the French explorers as the tribe of the falls of St. Mary at the mouth of Lake Superior.

men. This view, however, has been generally given up. The researches of Powell and other specialists, including Winchell and Brower in Minnesota, have well referred the building of the mounds to the ancestors of the present Indians.—Warren Upham in *Minnesota in Three Centuries*.

³Rock County Herald, August 23, 1889.

⁴The Sioux tribe came originally from the Atlantic coast, in Virginia and the Carolinas. Several centuries before the discovery of

About a hundred years after the first coming of white men the Ojibways wrested Mille Lacs and Rum river from the Sioux. Thenceforth until the white man supplanted the red these two tribes occupied all the area of Minnesota, the Ojibways holding its northeastern wooded half and the Sioux⁴ its prairie half on the southwest. There were three great tribal divisions of the Sioux, namely: the Isantis, residing about the headwaters of the Mississippi; the Yanktons, who occupied the region north of the Minnesota river; and the Tetonwans, who lived west of the Yanktons. These tribes were subdivided into other, smaller bands.

We have no knowledge that the red men had their permanent homes on Rock county soil, although such may have been the case. The Yankton branch of the Sioux nation claimed the extreme southwestern portion of Minnesota and trapped and hunted over it extensively prior to the Sioux war of 1862, when they were driven into Dakota. Thereafter until white men had made settlement in Rock county, bands of the Yanktons made less frequent expeditions into the country in pursuit of game.

Let us, in imagery, take a look at the Rock county of years gone by, when it was in primeval state, when it was as nature had formed it. Its topography was practically the same as we find it today. There were the same broad, rolling prairies, stretching as far as the eye might reach, presenting in summer a perfect paradise of verdure, with its variegated hues of flowers and vege-

America they migrated from that eastern country, by way of the Ohio river, and eventually located in the upper Mississippi river country. The name of the nation is a contraction of *Nadouessis* or *Nadouessioux*, which was the name used for the tribe by the very early explorers, and which was given to these people by the Ojibways and other Algonquins. The original name is a term of hatred, meaning snakes or enemies. Naturally the Sioux disliked this name, and they called themselves, collectively, *Dakotas*, which means confederates or allies.

tation; in winter a dreary and snow mantled desert. The rivers and creeks flowed in the same courses as now; the mounds stood the same silent, grim guard as at the present day. But what a contrast!

Wild beasts and birds and wilder red men then reigned supreme. Vast herds of bison, elk and deer roamed the open prairies and reared their young in the more sheltered places along the streams. With that wonderful appreciation of the beautiful which nature has made an instinct in the savage, the untutored Sioux had selected the country as his hunting ground and roamed it at will. If inanimate things could speak what wild tales of Indian adventure could be poured forth!

But inanimate things cannot speak and the animate aborigine is a notoriously worthless historian; so a very interesting part of the history of Rock county must forever remain unrecorded. Only trifling bits of history, intermingled with a plethora of legend, are preserved of the days before the Caucasian race took possession.

It is said that the savages were wont to round up and drive over the precipices at the mounds herds of bison, sending them to an untimely death, and certain it is that the bones of many of the noble animals of the prairie were found at the foot of the cliffs by the early white settlers. At least one white man, probably some adventurous trapper, is known to have met his death in Rock county at the hands of the savages before settle-

ment was made. His bones were found bleaching on the open prairie in the northwestern part of the county among hundreds of bison skeletons. In the temple of the skull was imbedded the flint point of an arrow.⁵

The facts are meager concerning a battle between two tribes of Indians fought on the west bank of Rock river, on the southwest quarter of section 16, Battle Plain township. An unknown authority states that the battle occurred in 1840 and was between the Ponca and Yankton Indians, that after four days' fighting the latter were the victors. There can be no question that an engagement took place there, for in the early days the marks of earthworks and other evidences of conflict were distinct. There was an enclosure 200x175 feet—described as egg-shaped—surrounded by a series of irregular pits from two to three and one-half feet deep and ten to twelve feet in length, the earth removed in digging having been piled in front for breastworks. From the rudeness and irregularity of the outline, those who have visited the site conclude it must have been the work of the Indians. Occasionally human bones and parts of weapons have been found on the spot.⁶

Before introducing the first white man who set foot on the soil of Rock county, let us review briefly the explorations that had been made in other parts of Minnesota.

White men first penetrated the northwest country to the present state of Minnesota in the middle of the seven-

⁵Address of R. O. Crawford, 1888.

⁶"An interesting relic of times in the early history of Rock county was found on the old battle ground in Battle Plain township Tuesday of last week and was brought to the Herald office last Monday by E. P. Hofgaard. It was an old flint-lock, single barreled shot gun, or rather what was left of one—the barrel and the lock. The relic was found on the bare prairie, where it had doubtless lain since the time many years ago when it dropped from the hand of some doughty warrior, and the

wonder is that it had not been discovered before. It was found near the spot where a skull was discovered a few years ago. The barrel was loaded with BB shot and the hammer was cocked. The barrel is forty-one inches long and something smaller than a twelve bore. It was slightly bent and was broken near the center. The lock bore the inscription in English letters, 'Barnett 1807.' It had evidently been silver plated, and attached to it was a brass device which had served as an ornament for the stock."—Rock County Herald, June 3, 1892.

teenth century (1655-56). In 1683 the first map on which physical features of Minnesota were pictured was published in connection with Father Hennepin's writings. The map is very vague and demonstrates that little was known of the northwest country. Five years later, in 1688, J. B. Franquelin, a Canadian French geographer, drafted for King Louis XVI of France a more detailed map of North America, making use of information gathered by Joliet and Marquette, La Salle, Hennepin, DuLuth and others. Some of the principal streams and lakes are marked and more or less accurately located, among others the R. des Moingene (Des Moines), which rises not far from our territory. The data for the greater part of the map were doubtless secured from the Indians.

A few French explorers, named above, had penetrated to several points within the present boundaries of our state, but none of them had explored the southwestern portion. In 1700 LeSueur ascended the Minnesota river and furnished data for a more or less authentic map of southwestern Minnesota, so far as the larger and more important physical features are concerned. This map was made by William DeL'isle, royal geographer of France, in 1703. For the first time the Minnesota river appeared upon a map, being labeled R. St. Pierre or Mini-Sota. The Des Moines also has a place on the map, being marked Des Moines or le Moingona R., and its source was definitely located. There is nothing in the writing of LeSueur, however, to lead to the belief that he extended his explorations to any country except that along the Minnesota river. Another map, made by Buache in 1754, was compiled from data furnished Sieur de la Verendrye by an Indian.

After LeSueur had penetrated to the southwestern part of the state in 1700 that portion of the country was not again visited by white men until sixty-six years later, so far as we know. In November, 1766, Jonathan Carver ascended the Minnesota river and spent the winter among the Sioux in the vicinity of the present city of New Ulm. He remained with the Indians until April, 1767, and learned their language. It is possible, but not probable, that Carver during this time may have visited the country which is now included within the boundaries of Rock county, for he hunted with the Indians over some of the great plains of southwestern Minnesota which, "according to their account [the Indians], are unbounded and probably terminate on the coast of the Pacific ocean."

While a number of explorers visited other parts of Minnesota and a few settlements had been established within the boundaries of the present state during the first part of the nineteenth century, none had penetrated to the southwestern corner and it was not until the late thirties that our immediate vicinity became known and was mapped. Catlin, who visited the Pipestone quarries in 1837; Schoolcraft, Featherstonhaugh, Allen, Keating and Long were early explorers to the wilds of Minnesota, but they confined themselves to the ready routes of travel, passing through the country in a single season. But in 1836 appeared one who crossed the upper Mississippi country in all directions, spending several years, winters included, in preparing data for his map, which was published after his death in 1843. This was Joseph Nicolas Nicollet,⁷ who was the first white man, of record, that

⁷Do not confound with Jean Nicollet, an American pioneer from France, who visited the country nearly two hundred years earlier.

visited Rock county.⁸ The principal aid of Mr. Nicollet in his explorations in Minnesota was Lieutenant John C. Fremont, later the nominee of the republican party for president of the United States.

Nicollet gave names to many lakes, streams and other physical features or adopted those which were current, and his map (a portion of which is reproduced in this volume) shows the scope of his explorations. He described the region west of the Mississippi river as containing several plateaus, or elevated prairies, which marked the limits of the various river basins. The most remarkable of these he called Plateau du Coteau des Prairies⁹ (plateau of prairie heights) and Coteau du Grand Bois (wooded heights). Nicollet described the Coteau des Prairies as a vast plain, elevated 1916 feet above the level of the ocean and 890 feet above Big Stone lake, lying between latitudes forty-three and forty-six degrees, extending from northwest to southeast for a distance of two hundred miles, its width varying from fifteen to forty miles. On the map he locates it as extending from a point a short distance northwest of Lake Traverse in a southeasterly direction into Iowa, and including the present Rock county.

With his party Nicollet visited the Pipestone quarries in July, 1838, and carved his name and the initials of his party, with the date, in the rock at that place. That he or some of his men visited Rock county during the years he was prosecuting his explorations in Minnesota

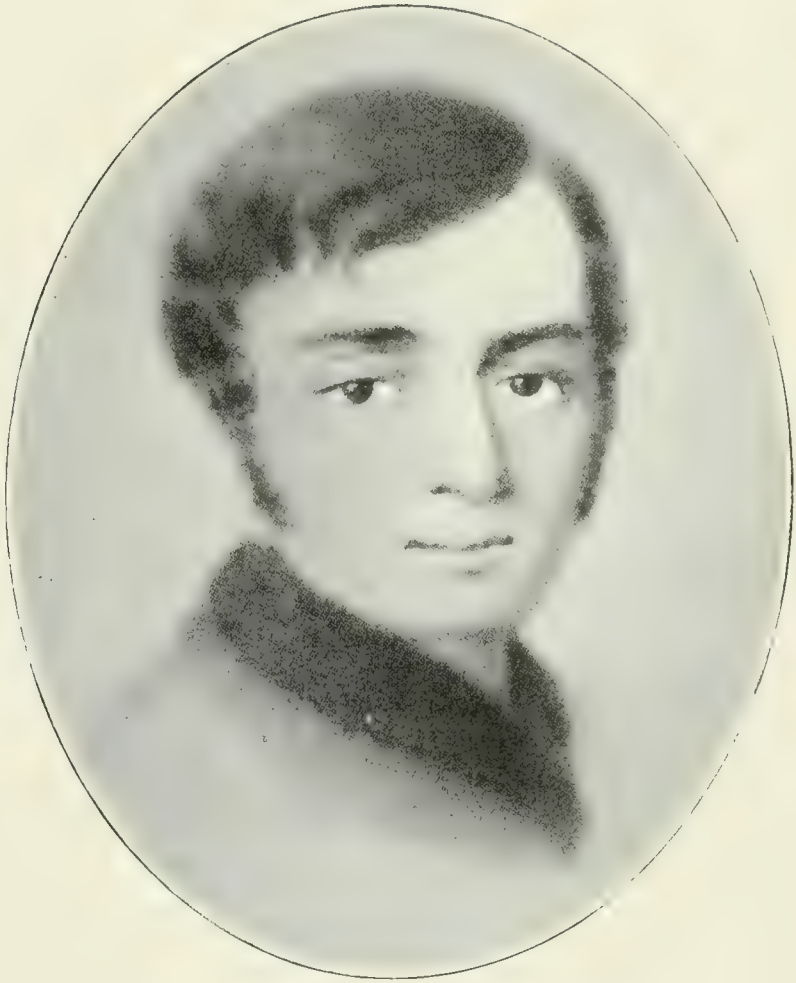
is evidenced by the fact that several natural features of the county with which we are familiar were given names and quite accurately located for the first time. Rock river was labeled "Inyan Reakah or R. of the Rock," and is shown as flowing into the "Teankasndata" (Big Sioux). The principal tributary of the "Inyan Reakah" is called "Karanzi R. or R. where the Kansas were killed," recognized as Kanaranzi creek. Farther north and also coming in from the east are two other tributaries of the Rock, labeled "Tchan-Pepedan R. or Thorny Wood R." (spelled on a present day map Chanpepedan), and the "Hidden Wood C. or Tchan-Narambe C." (which we now spell Chanarambie.) The Split Rock is shown but not named. Beaver creek is either not shown or is incorrectly located. In Pipestone county is shown "Red Pipestone C.," "Indian Red Pipestone Quarry" and north of the quarry a stream flowing into the Big Sioux named "Coteau Perce C." Other places which are recognized on a present day map in the vicinity are "L. Shetek," "L. Talcott," "Okebene L." and "Ocheyedan L." Nicollet's work was of inestimable value to Minnesota by reason of the thoroughness of his exploration and the reasonable accuracy of his map, which became the official map of the country.

For several years after the visit of Nicollet the future county of Rock was visited by white men only occasionally. We find that when Minnesota territory was created in 1819 the southwestern portion was a veritable terra incognita.¹⁰ In fact all the land west of the Missis-

⁸It is possible that Nicollet did not in person visit Rock county, but certainly some of his party did. Owing to his premature death much of a historical nature concerning this region was lost. He had notes for a work of several volumes, relating principally to what is now Minnesota, and he had only fairly started the work when he died.

⁹The name had been given by the earlier French explorers.

¹⁰Westward of the Mississippi river the country was unexplored and virgin. There were wide expanses of wild and trackless prairie, never traversed by a white man, which are now the highly developed counties of southern and southwestern Minnesota, with their fine and flourishing cities and towns and the other institutions that make for a state's eminence and greatness. Catlin had passed from Little Rock to the Pipestone quarry; Nicollet and his surveying party had gone over



JOSEPH NICOLAS NICOLLET

Who Explored Southwestern Minnesota in 1838 and Drew the First
Authentic Map of the County.

Mississippi was still in undisputed ownership of the Sioux lands, and white men had no rights whatever in the country. But the tide of immigration to the west set in and settlers were clamoring for admission to the rich lands west of the river. In time the legal barrier was removed.

In the spring of 1851 President Fillmore, at the solicitation of residents of Minnesota territory, directed that a treaty with the Sioux be made and named as commissioners to conduct the negotiations Governor Alexander Ramsey, ex-officio commissioner for Minnesota, and Luke Lea, the national commissioner of Indian affairs. These commissioners completed a treaty with the Sisseton and Wahpaton bands—the upper bands, as they were usually called—at Traverse des Sioux (near the present site of St. Peter) during the latter part of July, 1851. Immediately afterward the commissioners proceeded to Mendota (near St. Paul), where they were successful in making a treaty with the Wahpakoota and M'daywakanton bands.

The treaties were ratified, with important amendments, by congress in 1852. The amended articles were signed by the Indians in September, 1852, and in February of the next year President Fillmore proclaimed the treaties in force. By this important proceeding the future Rock county passed from the ownership

of the Sioux to the United States government, and the former owners took up their residence on the north side of the Minnesota river. The territory purchased from the four Sioux bands was estimated to comprise about 23,750,000 acres, of which more than 19,000,000 acres were in Minnesota. The price paid was about twelve and one-half cents per acre, which is the lowest price Rock county land ever sold for.¹¹

The next record we have of white men visiting the future Rock county was in 1852, when surveyors under direction of Warner Lewis, surveyor general of Iowa, ran the line between Iowa and Minnesota territory. They started at the southwest corner of the county about the first of August, planted an iron post marking the boundary line,¹² and proceeded on their way eastward, completing the line across the southern boundary of Rock county on August 5.

Although Rock county did not receive permanent settlers until the late sixties, much earlier than that pioneers had pushed out to many of the out-of-the-way places in Minnesota and located homes within less than a hundred miles of the county-to-be. The middle fifties were remarkable ones in Minnesota territory by reason of the immense tide of immigration pouring in and the consequent activity in real estate operations. So early as 1852 the real estate speculative

the same route and had traveled along the Minnesota. Sibley and Fremont had chased elk over the prairies in what are now Steele, Dodge, Freeborn and Mower counties; the Missouri cattle drovers had led their herds to Fort Snelling and up to the Red river regions, but in all, not fifty white men had passed over the tract of territory now comprising southern and southwestern Minnesota when the territory was admitted in 1849."—Return I. Holcombe in *Minnesota in Three Centuries*.

"The territory ceded by the Indians was declared to be: "All their lands in the state of Iowa and also all their lands in the territory of Minnesota lying east of the following line, to-wit: Beginning at the junction of the Buffalo river with the Red River of the North [about twelve miles north of Moorhead, in Clay county]; thence along the western bank of said Red River of the North to the mouth

of the Sioux Wood river; thence along the western bank of said Sioux Wood river to Lake Traverse; thence along the western shore of said lake to the southern extremity thereof; thence in a direct line to the junction of Kameska lake with the Tchan-ka-sna-du-ta, or Sioux river; thence along the western bank of said river to its point of intersection with the northern line of the state of Iowa; including all islands in said rivers and lakes."

"This post, which still stands, is six feet in length, of which three feet are embedded in the ground. It is hollow, twelve inches square at the base and seven at the top. On the north face in raised letters is "W. B. Minn." on the south face. "Iowa," while on the east and west faces are "43° 30' N. L." Souvenir hunters have hacked a hole in the north side and carried away pieces of the cast iron.

era commenced in St. Paul and the older settlements along the eastern border of the territory.

During 1853 and 1854 there were large accessions of population to the eastern portions; roads were constructed; farms were opened in the wilderness; villages sprang into existence in many parts of the frontier. During these years the settlements did not extend to the western and southwestern parts of the territory, but during the following few years the human flow poured in and spread out into nearly all parts of Minnesota. The fever of real estate speculation, which had been only feebly developed before, now attacked all classes. Enormous and rapid profits were made by speculators who had the foresight and courage to venture.

These hordes of immigrants did not take all the lands as they went along but were constantly pushing out to the frontier, seeking desirable locations in timbered tracts. In fact, so discriminating were many that they refused to locate where they could not have timber and prairie land adjoining! It was during this period, in 1856, that settlement was made on Lake Okoboji, near the present site of Spirit Lake, Iowa, at Springfield, where is now situated the town of Jackson, Minnesota, and at the falls of the Big Sioux river, where is now situated the city of Sioux Falls. Had unforeseen events not taken place at this interesting period there can be no question that within a very short time Rock county would have been settled—nearly a decade earlier than was the case.

One of the items that resulted in the retardation of the westward march was the panic of 1857. The influx of settlers almost completely ceased, times were very hard throughout the country, and especially was this condition of affairs

felt in the northwest. But another event of that year had a more important bearing on the future Rock county than had the panic. This was the Inkpaduta massacre, the first Indian outbreak in Minnesota. A small band of outlaw Sioux under the leadership of Inkpaduta, one of the most ruthless and treacherous characters in Indian history, went on the war-path in March, murdered every man, woman and child in the Okoboji Lake settlement and seven of those at Springfield.

The massacre proved to be a serious blow to the growth and development of this region. The counties in which settlement had been made were depopulated. The pioneers fled for their lives; everything was abandoned. Troops were soon stationed in the country, but it took time to restore confidence, and for some time all of those counties lying west of Fairbault county remained almost wholly devoid of inhabitants.

It seems strange that at a time when only a handful of men were braving the dangers of the Indian country by remaining in southwestern Minnesota, the territorial legislature should see fit to create the political division known as Rock county, together with several others in the vicinity. But such is the case, and Rock county was for the first time entitled to a place on the map of Minnesota on May 23, 1857, when Governor Samuel Medary attached his signature to the bill creating it.

Conditions in Minnesota at the time were unique. Thousands of people were pouring in and building themselves homes in the frontier sections. Elaborate schemes for big ventures were planned; nothing was done in a niggardly manner; frenzied finance reigned supreme. Railroad rumors filled the air, and it was indeed an out-of-the-way place that did not

look forward to the coming of the iron horse in the immediate future. Paper railroads covered the territory from one end to the other, and southwestern Minnesota was no exception to the rule. The territorial legislature caught the fever and granted bonuses to various contemplated railroads. The townsite boomers carried their schemes to the legislature and largely for their benefit the Minnesota lawmaking body indiscriminately created counties in all parts of the territory - in many of which there was not at the time a single resident. And Rock county came into existence under these conditions.

Investigation shows us that in addition to the Indian title, which was quieted by treaty in the early fifties, the land now comprising Rock county has been in the possession of three different nations and has formed a part of six different territories of the United States and of three different counties of Minnesota. Before taking up the story of the creation of the county I shall here break into the chronological order of events long enough to trace this matter of sovereignty.

Our county formed a small part of the new world possessions claimed by France by right of discovery and exploration. In 1763, humbled by wars in Europe and America, France was forced to relinquish her province known as Louisiana, and all her possessions west of the Mississippi river were ceded to Spain in that year. Amid the exigencies of European wars Spain, in the year 1800, ceded Louisiana back to France, which was then under the rule of Napoleon Bonaparte. On April 30, 1803, negotiations were completed for the purchase of Louisiana by the United States for the sum of fifteen million dollars. On

that date the future Rock county became a part of the United States.

Soon after the United States secured possession, in 1805, that part of the mammoth territory of Louisiana which had been called Upper Louisiana was organized into Missouri territory, and had our county then had inhabitants they would have been under the government of Missouri. Missouri was admitted as a state in 1820, and for several years thereafter the country beyond its northern boundaries, comprising what is now Iowa and all of Minnesota west of the Mississippi river, was without organized government. But in 1834 congress attached this great expanse of territory to Michigan territory. Two years later Wisconsin territory was formed, comprising all of Michigan west of Lake Michigan, and for the next two years we were a part of that territory.

Congress did a lot of enacting and boundary changing before it got Rock county where it belonged. We became a part of Iowa territory when it was created in 1838, because we were included in "all that part of the [then] present territory of Wisconsin which lies west of the Mississippi river and west of a line drawn due north from the headwaters or sources of the Mississippi to the territorial line." Rock county was a part of Iowa territory until Iowa became a state in 1846. During this time settlers began to locate in portions of what later became Minnesota, and they were put under the jurisdiction of Clayton county, Iowa.¹³ Before this the Minnesota country had been practically a "no man's land." The only laws enforced were the rules of the fur companies and the law of the sword administered by the commandant at Fort Snell-

¹³Henry H. Sibley, who lived at Mendota, was a justice of the peace of that county. The county seat was two hundred fifty miles

distant, and his jurisdiction extended over a region of country "as large as the empire of France."

ing. By the admission of Iowa as a state in 1846 our county again became actually a "no man's land;" we were a part of no territory or state. That condition existed until Minnesota territory was created in 1849.

When the first legislature convened after the organization of the territory in 1849 it divided Minnesota into nine counties, named as follows: Benton, Dakota, Itasca, Cass, Pembina, Ramsey, Washington, Chisago and Wabasha. The whole of southern Minnesota was included in Wabasha and Dakota, and of these two Dakota had the bulk of territory. Wabasha included that part of the territory "lying east of a line running due south from a point on the Mississippi river known as Medicine Bottle village, at Pine Bend [near St. Paul], to the Iowa line." Dakota county (created October 27, 1849) was "all that part of said territory west of the Mississippi and lying west of the county of Wabasha and south of a line beginning at the mouth of Crow river, and up said river and the north branch thereof to its source, and thence due west to the Missouri river."¹⁴

Although Dakota county was larger than many of the eastern states, its population was almost nothing and it was declared "organized only for the purpose of the appointment of justices of the peace, constables and such other judicial and ministerial officers as may be specially provided for."

The future Rock county remained a part of Dakota county until March 5, 1853, when there was a readjustment of Dakota and Wabasha county boundaries,

and Blue Earth county came into existence. The boundaries of the latter were described as follows: "So much territory lying south of the Minnesota river as remains of Wabasha and Dakota counties undivided by this act." As the boundaries of the two older counties as defined by the act were very indefinite, it is impossible to state exactly what the dimensions of Blue Earth county were. It is known, however, that it included all of southwestern Minnesota.

For two years the unknown Rock county country remained a part of Blue Earth county, and then came another change. By an act approved February 20, 1855, the county of Blue Earth was reduced to its present boundaries, Faribault county was created with the boundaries it now has, except that it extended one township farther west than now, and the new county of Brown came into existence. The last named was described as follows: "That so much of the territory as was formerly included within the county of Blue Earth, and has not been included within the boundaries of any other county as herein established, shall be known as the county of Brown." All of the territory lying south of the Minnesota river and west of a line drawn south from the western boundary of the present day Blue Earth county now became Brown county, and Rock county remained a part of this until two years later, when it became a political division of itself.¹⁵

Rock county was only one of nine counties in southwestern Minnesota cre-

¹⁴Minnesota territory then extended west to the Missouri river. In this mammoth county of Dakota were the following present day counties (or parts of counties) in Minnesota, in addition to many in what is now the state of South Dakota: Rock, Nobles, Jackson, Martin, Faribault, Freeborn, Steele, Waseca, Blue Earth, Watonwan, Cottonwood, Murray, Pipestone, Lincoln, Lyon, Redwood, Brown, Nicollet, LaSalle, Rice, Dakota (part), Scott, Sibley, Renville, Yellow Medicine, Lac qui Parle,

Chippewa, Kandiyohi (except small corner), Meeker (part), McLeod, Carver, Hennepin, Wright (part), Stearns (small part), Pope (part), Swift, Stevens (part), Big Stone and Traverse (part).

¹⁵Brown county was not organized at once, but by an act of the legislature on February 11, 1856, it was permitted to organize. New Ulm was named as the county seat.

ated by the act of May 23, 1857.¹⁶ The section defining the boundaries was as follows:

That so much of the territory of Minnesota as lies within the following boundaries be, and the same is hereby, established as the county of Pipestone:¹⁷ Beginning at the southwest corner of township one hundred and one, range forty-four; thence north to the northeast corner of township one hundred and four, of range forty-four west; thence west to the northwest corner of township one hundred and four north, of range forty-eight (48) west; thence south to the southwest corner of township one hundred and one north, of range forty-eight (48) west; thence east to the place of beginning.

If the reader will take the trouble to trace these boundaries on a map of the present day he will find that the boundaries of the county extended about ten miles into what is now South Dakota, thus making the original Rock county (or Pipestone county, as it is designated in the act) of a size equal to the others created in 1857. It retained these dimensions until Dakota territory was formed in 1861, when Minnesota's western boundary line was moved eastward and Rock county was reduced to its present limited area.¹⁸ The name was given because of the huge mounds near the center of the county.¹⁹ Of the nine counties created by the act only Martin, Jackson, Nobles and Big Sioux were declared to be organized and "invested with all the immunities to which organized counties are entitled by law." They were attach-

ed to the third judicial district and to the tenth council district.

It is needless to say that Rock county was not organized at this time. There were not only no residents in the county, but practically the whole of southwestern Minnesota was deserted. Permanent settlement in Rock county did not begin until 1867 and county government was not begun until 1870; then it was organized under the original act of 1857, supplemented by a special act of 1870.

After the legislature had divided southwestern Minnesota into counties it was deemed advisable to establish their boundaries. A surveying party visited the county in September, 1858, and ran the lines which marked its boundaries.²⁰ In July and August, 1859, another surveying party, headed by Snow & Hutton, visited the county and ran a line north from the iron post. Again in October and November, 1864, Carl P. Meyer did some surveying along the western boundary of Rock county.

So soon as confidence was restored after the Spirit Lake massacre, settlement was begun again in portions of southwestern Minnesota, and in the late fifties and very early sixties quite a number of settlers founded homes in Martin, Jackson, Cottonwood, Murray and Nobles counties. Some of the counties east of these had not been seriously affected

¹⁶Minnesota territory at this time extended west to the Big Sioux river. The other counties created by the act were Martin, Jackson, Nobles, Murray, Cottonwood, Pipestone, Big Sioux and Midway. The four first named were given the boundaries they now have and Cottonwood was practically the same. Big Sioux and Midway counties embraced parts of the present Minnehaha and Moody counties, South Dakota, and extended from the Big Sioux river to the boundary lines of Rock and Pipestone counties.

¹⁷In this early legislative act the territory embraced within the boundaries of Rock county was given the name Pipestone and vice versa. The transposition may have been due to a lack of knowledge of the physical features in this part of the country or to a clerical error. The mistake was later rectified, for we find that in the revised statutes of 1866

Rock county is described with its proper boundaries, as is also Pipestone.

¹⁸An abortive attempt was made to enlarge Rock county's boundaries in 1872, the history of which will be found in a later chapter.

¹⁹After the county was created, but before it was organized, there was talk of changing the name, and Grant and Lincoln were suggested as appropriate ones, in honor of the two great men of the hour. I have authority for the statement that the legislature of 1866 did change the name to Lincoln, but I have been unable to find the act. If such a change was made, it was soon revoked.

²⁰The township lines were run in 1866 but the section lines were not surveyed until 1870, after settlers had come to the county.

by the Indian outbreak and had substantial settlements. From another direction came settlers almost to the very threshold of Rock county, if they did not actually locate on Rock county soil. During the late fifties quite a number of men, some with their families, advanced up the Big Sioux river from the Iowa settlements and established homes where Sioux Falls now stands, and there resided until the outbreak of the Sioux war in 1862. Many of these were members of the townsite company which proposed to found a city at the falls of the Big Sioux.

It will be remembered that the original Rock county extended westward ten miles into what is now South Dakota. Its western boundary was within a short distance of Sioux Falls, and a bend of the Big Sioux river passed through the

southwestern corner of it. So it is not remarkable that when the federal census of 1860 was taken Rock county, Minnesota, was credited with a population of 23.²¹ I have no knowledge of the exact locations of these first settlers, but presume they had their homes on the Big Sioux river, not far from Sioux Falls, and not in Rock county proper.²² The enumeration was made by Elias D. Bruner, of New Ulm, on July 17, 1860. He found ten dwelling houses in Rock county, occupied by as many families. None of those visited had title to real estate, but several had personal property, the total value of which was \$845. Following are the names of the inhabitants of Rock county (reported as Pipestone county) in 1860, their ages, occupation, birthplaces and the value of their personal property:²³

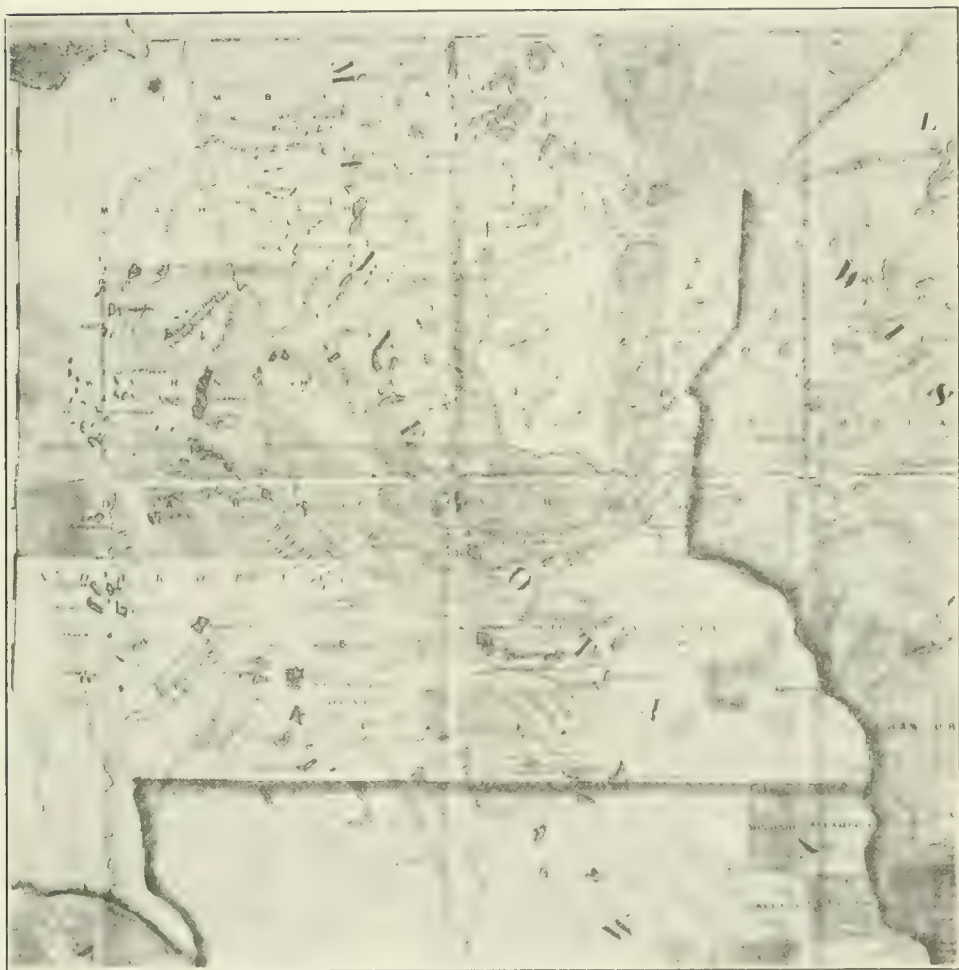
NAME	Age	Occupation	Property	Birthplace
*Henry Henderson.....	30	Farmer	\$100	England
Jane Henderson	28			England
Mary Henderson	8			Wisconsin
Thomas Henderson	6			Wisconsin
*Charles Henderson	46	Farmer	120	England
Ann Henderson	48			England
William Henderson.....	24	Farmer	75	England
Henry Henderson.....	23	Farmer		England
John Henderson.....	20	Farmer		England
Catherine Henderson	17			England
*John Burgess	48	Farmer	150	Ireland
*Eaven Johnson	31	Farmer	100	Norway
Thomas Johnson	27	Farmer		Norway
*William Tealand	35			Norway
Mary Tealand.....	37			Norway
James Tealand.....	11			Wisconsin
Henry Tealand.....	10			Wisconsin
John Tealand.....	8			Wisconsin
*Henry Churchill.....	37	Farmer		Ohio
*William Henderson.....	31	Farmer		New York
*Hamilton Colby	39	Farmer		Ireland
*Thomas Edgerton.....	26	Trader	200	New Hampshire
*William Hendricks.....	27	Trader	100	Ohio

*Heads of families.

²¹Other counties of southwestern Minnesota had population in 1860 as follows: Faribault, 1335; Blue Earth, 4203; Brown, 2339; Watonwan, 0; Martin, 151; Jackson, 181; Cottonwood, 12; Murray, 29; Nobles, 35; Pipestone, 0.

²²As a matter of fact, the twenty-three inhabitants of the enumeration of 1860 are credited to Pipestone county in the records of the census department at Washington, but

there is no question that they have reference to the county south of that one. When Rock and Pipestone counties were created in 1857 the names were transposed, and, apparently, a change had not been made in 1860. In a federal census report for 1870 I have found a notation to the effect that the census returns for Rock county in 1860 were incorrectly credited to Pipestone county. Pipestone county (named Rock) also originally extended into



MINNESOTA TERRITORY

From a Map Published in 1850. Note the Western Boundary Line of the Territory.

The development of this frontier region was destined to delay. It had only fairly recovered from the effects of the Inkipaduta or Spirit Lake massacre and the hard times period when the outbreak of the civil war in 1861 again set a break on immigration. Then in August, 1862, was inaugurated the terrible Sioux war, which again depopulated the western part of Minnesota and crimsoned the fair soil with the blood of so many innocent men, women and children. Fiendish atrocity, blood-curdling cruelty and red-handed murder ran riot. At New Ulm was enacted one of the most atrocious massacres recorded in the annals of Indian warfare. At Lake Shetek, in Murray county, on the Des Moines river in Jackson county, and at other places in southwestern Minnesota the murder-crazed redskins fell upon the settlers and enacted lesser tragedies—lesser only because the victims were not so numerous. Those who had builded homes on the Big Sioux river and within the boundaries of the original Rock county hastily departed to escape the fury of the savages. When the census of 1865 was taken there were no inhabitants in Rock county.

The growth of Minnesota received a setback from which it took many years to fully recover. After the inauguration of this fiendish warfare the western frontier line receded eastward, and the greater portion of southwestern Minnesota was again left in the midst of the hostile Indian country, and for many months no white man trod its soil. After the

settlements in the eastern part of the state had partially recovered from the first rude shock of the Indian outbreak, which fell like a thunderbolt from a clear sky, steps were taken to defend the exposed settlements, to conquer the redskins and drive them back. The civil war was in progress, and the majority of the able bodied settlers were in the south fighting for the union. It therefore required some time to muster troops and place them in advantageous positions to cope with the wily red foe. In the meantime the Indians carried on their brutal warfare, murdering men, women and children, and burning as they went. After considerable delay the Indians were driven back, soldiers were placed all through this western country, and the prairies were constantly patrolled by companies which were detailed for the service.

The expeditions against the hostile Sioux resulted in Rock county being frequently visited by military parties. For convenience in operating against the savages, military roads were constructed in different parts of the country. One of the main thoroughfares was through Rock county, extending from Jackson to the present site of Luverne and on to Yankton. From Jackson the road ran to the Graham Lakes country of northeastern Nobles county, and then to the west, passing near the present site of Wilmont, and entered Rock county in Vienna township. Thence it ran to the present location of Luverne and on to Yankton. The road was a comparatively

South Dakota and included the site of Flandreau, where a townsite had been founded in an early day. Concerning the possibility that the 1860 enumeration might have been for the Flandreau country, Doane Robinson, secretary of the South Dakota Historical society, has written me, under date of December 31, 1910, as follows:

"I have yours of the 28th asking me if there was a settlement in Flandreau in 1860. I doubt if any one was living there at that time. The Dakota Land company had townsites at Medary and Flandreau and other

points on the Sioux river. They had a colony at Sioux Falls at that time, and it is possible that at the time the census was taken in June a few might have been making a bluff at holding the townsites at Flandreau and Medary. I find no record on the subject and can only surmise that this might have been the case."

²²This list was obtained from the director of the census at Washington, through the kindness of Hon. W. S. Hammond.

good one, and in after years it was used as the mail route from Blue Earth City and Jackson to Luverne, Sioux Falls and Yankton. To this day evidences of the old road can be seen in places.

The savages were soon subdued after troops were placed in the field, but for a number of years the settlers on the extreme frontier lived in a state of constant fear and anxiety, not knowing at what time the scenes of 1862 might be repeated. When peace was established on the border, settlement again commenced—destined this time to be permanent—and the frontier line moved westward rapidly.

During the first half of the sixties the settlement did not extend so far as Rock county, if we except a few trappers who plied their trade here. A few of these built shanties, which they occupied during the trapping season. At the close of the season it was their custom to depart to their homes farther east or south and dispose of their catch. Sometimes they would return to the trapping grounds of Rock county the next season; sometimes they would not. In no sense of the word could they be called permanent settlers. They neither laid claim to land (except under the unwritten law governing trapping rights) nor intended to make their homes here.

During the late sixties a new order of

things obtained, resulting in settlement being pushed west to Rock county. When the civil war ended, railroads—those great civilizers—began reaching out and interlocking through the northwest. For Minnesota this was the starting point of such an era of rapid growth and development as was the marvel of the times. The iron horse had reached the eastern part of southwestern Minnesota late in the sixties, and early in the next decade railroads were built to and beyond these counties. The line of the first railroad to the extreme southwestern part of the state was surveyed in 1866, although it was not built until 1871. This survey was made by the Minnesota Valley Railroad company, which later became the Sioux City & St. Paul, and later still the Omaha road. The line as surveyed passed Okabena lake and on to the southwest, almost to the very door of Rock county—a county which at the time did not boast a single inhabitant.

A country through which railway surveys are being made is not destined to long remain without settlers. In 1867 pioneers builded homes in northeastern Nobles county and a few pushed out to the Rock river in Rock county and selected claims, there to establish permanent homes. Rock county, which had been the home of the aborigine for countless ages, was claimed by the whites.

CHAPTER II.

EARLY SETTLEMENT—1867-1870.

OFTEN there is a tendency on the part of the chronicler of local history to paint, polish and varnish the stories of the early days, so that sometimes those who were the principal actors in the drama enacted are unable to recognize themselves or their part in the play. It is my intention to steer clear of this fault and avoid fiction in dealing with the early day events, and to rely solely upon the facts to make the narrative interesting. There is always something connected with the settlement of a new country that interests, and so it is with Rock county.

Permanent settlement began in the southwestern corner county of Minnesota in 1867. A few years before that time, as has been previously told, trappers had begun to operate in Rock county, visiting the streams for the taking of the pelts of the fur-bearing animals, which were then to be found.¹ We have data concerning the operations of only a few of these. Of those who later became residents of the county, one of the first white men that looked upon its soil was Robert Douglass, who passed through Rock county with the

soldiers in pursuit of the redskins after the Indian uprising of the early sixties. He reported many elk and deer in the country and was responsible for naming Elk slough in Magnolia township.

James A. Rice, later sheriff of Rock county, in company with G. M. Scott, trapped along Rock river and traded with the Indians in the fall of 1866 and spent over a month within the county's boundaries. He has told of this event and conditions as he found them at that early day, before any person had established a home so far on the frontier.² Early in the month of November these two trappers, traveling horseback and by compass, were crossing the prairies of northwestern Iowa on their way to the Big Sioux river. They came to an unknown stream soon after crossing the Minnesota boundary line and forded it near a point where another and smaller stream joined the larger one. The point was the forks of the Rock river, a short distance below Laverne. Discovering beaver signs along the stream, the trappers gave up their plan of going to the Big Sioux and shaped their course up the Rock. They pitched their tent in the grove of natural tim-

¹Owing to the smallness of the streams, fur-bearing animals were not found in great abundance in Rock county and the operations of the trappers were not extensive. After the

county was permanently settled some beaver and a few otter were taken along Rock river.

²As reported by the Rock County Herald, May 23, 1873.

ber on the east side of the stream on land which later became the property of E. N. Darling. There they remained until December 20, when, having had a good run of luck, they departed for Iowa with their catch. Mr. Rice visited the locality again the next fall, but remained only a few days.

During their stay on the river in 1866 Messrs. Rice and Scott saw an occasional elk, deer and antelope, and one day they saw two buffalo, which had come back once more to their stamping grounds before bidding adieu forever. The trappers liked the looks of the country, and Mr. Rice in after years told of his and his companion's speculations as to the length of time before the country would be settled. "We knew it was as nice a country as ever 'laid outdoors,'" he said, "but we had no idea that it would be settled in fifty years."

During the autumn of 1866 Nathan C. Estey and James Johnson, of Spirit Lake, Iowa, visited the county for the purpose of selecting claims on the unsurveyed lands for themselves and for Mr. Estey's younger brothers, also having a few goods for barter with the Indians. They proceeded up the Rock river to the point where the Chanpepedan enters it in Vienna township and there built a shanty, in which they lived two months.³

The first attempt to establish a permanent home in Rock county was made early in the month of June, 1867, by a Mr. Towers and was unsuccessful. On the southwest quarter of section 36, of what is now Clinton township, Mr. Towers put up a hay shed, broke a small patch of ground, and planted potatoes,

beans and pumpkins. He staked several claims in the vicinity and remained more than a month. It was his intention to pass the winter in the frontier location, but owing to the straying of his oxen he abandoned the idea and made settlement in Dickinson county, Iowa. It is said that while crossing the Little Sioux river, in his search for the missing cattle, he lost his clothing and found his way to the Spirit Lake settlement dressed only in a gunny sack.⁴ Edwin Gillham, who later became a resident of the county, trapped along the streams in the summer of 1867.

During the month of June, 1867, Philo Hawes, who was to take a more active part in early day affairs of Rock county than any other man, accompanied by Joe Fields, passed through the county, selecting a route for a government mail line from Blue Earth City, Minnesota, to Yankton, Dakota territory. These men located the line from Jackson through the Graham Lakes country of Nobles county, and arrived at the Rock river, a short distance above the present site of Luverne, on June 13, where they camped for the night. Their trip to this point had been over an uninhabited prairie country, dotted here and there along the streams and lakes by small groves of trees—but no place so pleasing to the eye was found as that along the Rock. Mr. Hawes has written as follows of this visit:

On the thirteenth day of June, 1867, about 5 p. m., I camped on the east side of Rock river, at or near the bridge that now crosses the river east of the mounds, on the road to Ole Haga's farm. The river was very high and I could not ford it. On the morning of the fourteenth we crossed,

site of Luverne, excepting one on section 6, Magnolia. The cabin was about 12x12 feet, built of logs and puncheons, and was in good condition in 1868. Above that point there was no timber on Rock river excepting a little about five miles above, the spot being designated Lost Timber.

⁴Rock County Herald, September 18, 1873.

³This is given on the authority of Colin J. Estey, who wrote of the event in 1899. E. N. Darling, who settled on Rock river in 1868 and became well acquainted with conditions in the early days, thinks that the point of erecting the cabin was on section 6, Magnolia township, on the east side of the river. At the time he came to the county there was no cabin on the east side of the river above the

swam our team over and drove to the mounds and camped near the spring just north of James Kelley's house. While the man that was with me put up the tent, I walked up to the top of the mounds to take a look at the surroundings. I could see down the river to Iowa, and the view was grand. The prairies were green, without a tree or shrub to be seen, except the timber that skirted the river. I went back to camp and told Joe Fields (the man that I hired to go through with me for the reason that he was a good swimmer and I was not) that I had found the Garden of Eden and that I was going to lay my bones in this valley. I took one of the horses and rode down the river to the old Shawver place on the west side, crossed over and back on the east side and got back to camp about dark. On my way back I crossed a track made by a buggy or light wagon. Afterwards I learned that it was made by Edwin Gillham, who afterwards carried the mail for me from here to Yankton. He was hunting and trapping in this section.

I was very favorably impressed with this section as to its agricultural and stock outlook and declared in my own mind that the time would come when this section would be settled by a sturdy and thriving population, as we now see it, but hardly thought that it would come so soon.

After spending a part of the day examining the country, these early visitors proceeded on their way westward, arriving at the present site of Sioux Falls on the morning of the fifteenth. There they found a military post, occupied by part of a regiment of soldiers. They continued their trip to Yankton and then returned to Jackson by way of Sioux City, Cherokee and Spirit Lake, arriving June 21. Mr. Hawes secured a sub-contract for carrying the mail over this route and in September returned to the Rock and erected a stage station. But before this was done others had come to establish permanent residence in Rock county and thus secure to themselves

the honor of having been the first settlers.

For the purpose of making permanent settlement, on the third day of August, 1867, Amos E. Estey and Orville C. Estey, brothers, arrived in Rock county from the Spirit Lake settlement.⁵ The next day Amos staked a claim on what proved to be, after the survey was made, section 25, Clinton township, some two miles north of the state line. The brothers then returned to Spirit Lake, but came back to the Rock river country again on August 12, accompanied by Colin J. Estey.⁶ Upon the day of their arrival they commenced putting up hay and building a "pole shanty" on Amos Estey's claim. This pioneer house of Rock county was nine feet wide by sixteen feet in length, seven feet high at the front and sloping down at the rear until the roof was only nine inches from the ground. The frame was constructed of poles cut along the river, which were placed upon upright "croched" poles. After the poles had been placed in position, long slough grass was placed over the frame, taking the place of clapboards. The grass was woven about the poles as the old fashioned willow baskets were woven. Over all were piled brush, coarse hay, sods and loose dirt.⁷

This pioneer home was decidedly on the frontier. The nearest settlers at the time it was constructed were many miles away, the nearest being a family by the name of Kordwell at the head of Spirit lake. To the north there were no settlers for a greater distance, and Yankton was the nearest settlement on

⁵The Estey family were from Wisconsin. Nathan Estey, one of the brothers, was living on his homestead near Spirit Lake, and the family stopped at that place a short time before taking up their home in Rock county. The family consisted of the widow, Deborah Estey, and her sons, Amos E., Orville C., Colin J., Byron, Alvord and others.

⁶On August 12, 1867, the writer and Amos

and Orville Estey landed in Rock county, two miles above the Iowa line, on the east side of the river, where we camped and proclaimed our residence to be from that date, and it was continuous from that on."—Article by Colin J. Estey, September, 1899.

⁷This primitive house was occupied by the family during the winter of 1867-68 and was replaced the next year by a log house.

the west, excepting the soldiers at the falls of the Big Sioux. The nearest settlement to the south was at the Big Sioux mills, some seventy-five miles away. Jackson was the postoffice address of the Estey boys, and Spirit Lake, Iowa, was the point from which they secured their provisions. The three brothers were joined later in the fall by their mother and other brothers, but before they came the second building in the county was erected, on the present site of Laverne.

Philo Hawes, having secured the sub-contract for carrying the mail over the newly established route, came out to the Rock again on September 18, 1867, for the purpose of erecting a stable, establishing a stopping place for the mail carrier and putting up hay for the carrier's horses. Accompanying him were four men and three teams with an outfit for putting up the hay. Camp was again made in the grove near what later became the E. N. Darling homestead. Mr. Hawes has written of his selection of the site for the station: "The next day [September 19] I went south to the state line and found that the mounds were some distance north of the center of the county and that most of the timber was in the southern half; for this reason I knew that the southern half would settle much faster than the northern part. When I made this discovery we moved down and camped near the present site of the Rock Island depot."

The men at once went to work putting up hay and building a stable of poles and hay—a stable of a size sufficient to hold six horses. The stop on the Rock was of short duration, the crew continuing on its way to establish other stations along the line. It was at this time

that Mr. Hawes selected the site for his future home. The section lines had not yet been run, and, of course, he could not at that time file a legal claim to the land, but he did claim, under "squatters' rights," what, when surveyed, was the east half of the northwest quarter and the south half of the northeast quarter of section 11, Laverne township—land upon which he later filed, and later still founded the town of Laverne.

On the twenty-fifth day of November, 1867, the station on the Rock was again visited by Mr. Hawes. He brought with him John Lietze and family and Miss Miranda J. Skinner (later the wife of George Blasdel), who were to maintain a stopping place, or Half Way House, as it was called, on the mail route. The "house" was of the half-cabin-half-cave style of architecture, located near the elevator sites of the Rock Island road. A cave was dug in the bank, and this was lined with logs and covered with ridge poles. Over all was piled hay and dirt. In this first Laverne house Mr. Lietze and his family passed the winter. He returned to his home in Blue Earth City the next spring when Mr. Hawes located permanently on his claim.

On the day before Mr. Lietze and his family arrived at the station, on November 24, 1867, Mrs. Deborah Estey, accompanied by two of the younger children, Alvord and Byron, arrived at the home prepared for her. The new arrivals brought a load of household goods and six chickens. In the pioneer "pole shanty" the family of six spent the next winter.⁸ The winter was an exceptionally mild one, and so late as December 6 the grass was green in the valleys and stock would leave the hay placed before them to crop the grass. Although

⁸"Mother did not see a white woman for six months, and only two squaws. She was

pleased to have even those two squaws call and dine with her." Colin J. Estey, 1899.

the Estey family were living in a world of their own, cut off from intercourse with the outside world, they seemed to enjoy themselves, busying themselves with the work of founding a home in the new country. On Christmas day, 1867, they prepared a special spread and duly celebrated the day.⁹

Although both the Estey and Lietze families spent the winter of 1867-68 on the Rock river, within ten miles of each other, neither knew of the presence of the other, each family believing itself to be the only one in Rock county. At Jackson, Mr. Hawes had been told that a family were spending the winter on the Rock, below his station, and on January 31, 1868, while on a trip over the line, he went down to see if it were true.¹⁰ He found that the Esteys had lost a day in the reckoning of time and that for over two months had been rigidly keeping Monday for the Sabbath day.

When once the trail has been blazed to a frontier country and actual settlement established, it is not long before others follow. This was the case in Rock county, and we find that during 1868 quite a number of settlers pushed to the Rock river country and builded themselves homes.

Among the first to come that year were

Jonathan Phelps and Lee Whitsell, trappers who had spent part of the preceding season within the county. Both selected claims along the river near the boundary line between Clinton and Laverne townships and built cabins.¹¹ During the month of March Philo Hawes arrived with his family and moved into the dug-out made vacant by the removal of John Lietze. He at once started the construction of a log cabin, 18x24 feet, moving into the new house in midsummer. The building boasted no floors, and hay answered the purpose of a carpet. The partitions were of carpet and sheeting. In the fall a 12x24 feet addition was erected on the north side. With Mr. Hawes came George McKenzie, who took as his claim the southwest quarter of section 11, Laverne township.¹² In April Edward McKenzie arrived and selected as his claim the northeast quarter of section 14, Laverne. Charles Hillman was also an early arrival, settling on section 2, Clinton township. In the spring also came Daniel Wilmot, A. E. Thompson and S. Toul from Cresco, Iowa, who took claims in the southern part of the county. They brought a breaking plow with them and broke out a little land. After accomplishing this, they returned to Iowa, but came back to their claims in November and spent

⁹Colin J. Estey has written of the difficulties encountered in securing the provisions:

"Planning for Christmas dinner away out sixty-five miles beyond the last settler, eighty-one miles from a store or market (Jackson), one hundred sixty miles from a railroad or telegraph office (Waseca), and long before the telephone was invented, was no small matter, but we felt as though the day should be marked. So we boys strove to see who would trap the first beaver to supply us with roast meat, as we valued our hens too highly to kill one of them. Amos was the lucky trapper; he caught a fine kitten beaver that weighed about thirty-five pounds gross. Then we dressed it and put it out to freeze. We boys wanted mother to make one of her famous johnnie cakes, which any of the old settlers can vouch were A No. 1. But mother said she was barred: 'Biddie' had not contributed her share toward the johnnie cake. Just as we were talking it over, off jumped 'Biddie' with a cackle as if to say, 'I haven't, hey? You spared my neck and here is your egg.'

"So we had our meat and johnnie cake, but where was our cranberry sauce? Then long-headed Al suggested that we might pick some wild grapes, and we did. In those days a kind of wild grape grew very large and clung to the vines until the buds crowded them off the next spring. I look back to that Christmas as one of the happiest in my life."

¹⁰"The Estey family moved on their claim at Ashcreek in August, 1867, but we did not know of their being there until along some time in the winter of 1867-68, so you see how neighborly we were in those times."—Philo Hawes.

¹¹Whitsell sold his claim soon afterward; Phelps, who had a family, remained until he secured title to the land.

¹²George McKenzie remained in Rock county until his death in 1886. He was a New Yorker, but came to the county from eastern Minnesota.

the winter in the county. Edwin Gillham, who had trapped through the country the year before, came again in 1868 and carried the mail over the route west from the Laverne station. He took a claim on section 10, Laverne township. On October 27 E. N. Darling and his family, accompanied by George W. Blasdell, arrived at the little settlement on the Rock, having come from eastern Minnesota. Mr. Darling selected a claim on section 6, Magnolia, and 31, Vienna townships,¹ and Mr. Blasdell on section 12, Laverne. John H. Ferguson came to the county in November, settled in southern Clinton township and erected a claim shanty that fall.¹⁴ This completes the list of arrivals for the year 1868.

Despite the fact that only a few had arrived in the county during the first half of the year, those were patriotic and duly celebrated the nation's birthday. All gathered at the grove on J. C. Phelps' claim and participated in a picnic. Every man, woman and child in the county, excepting Charley Hawes, who was on a trip to Yankton with the mail, were present. They were Philo Hawes and family, Mrs. Deborah Estey and family, Miss Miranda J. Skinner, Edward McKenzie, Daniel Wilmot and family, S. Toul, J. C. Phelps and family and Charles Hillman.¹⁵

The arrivals of 1868 all took claims along Rock river, extending from a short distance above Laverne south to the state line. There were so few in the settlement that the arrival of a "prairie schooner" to the valley of the Rock awakened profound feelings of joy at the thought of another neighbor, and each new arrival was sure of a hearty

welcome. The community was isolated, and the fact drew the settlers into closer bonds of friendship. The nearest settlements at the time were at Sioux Falls, where were a few soldiers under command of Colonel Knox and one family, and in the Graham Lakes country of northeastern Nobles county. The nearest points from which supplies were secured were Jackson and Spirit Lake. Prior to the fall of 1868 the nearest post-office was Jackson. Late in the year a postoffice named Laverne was established, with Edward McKenzie, who was then carrying the mail, designated as postmaster. E. N. Darling, however, had charge of the office during the winter, conducting it at the Hawes cabin. Of conditions in 1868 Philo Hawes has written: "As to our grub we never suffered on account of lack of provisions; we did not have the courses that modern society calls for, but we only once had to grind corn in the coffee-mill to make bread, and that was on account of a delay in teams getting in from Jackson."

During the winter of 1868-69 occurred the first threshing in Rock county. Philo Hawes raised a small amount of oats, and these were threshed out with a flail by E. N. Darling. The yield was fifteen or twenty bushels, part of which Mr. Hawes sold to parties traveling through at \$1.00 per bushel.

Colin Estey has also told of experiences in the little settlement at this early day:

I remember how kind and generous the settlers were during those pioneer days. If one were out of provisions any of the neighbors would divide. At one time, when the Esteys, John Ferguson, wife and babe, Charles Hillman, Daniel Wilmot, wife and daughter, Abbie and her husband, Al. Thompson, Johnnie Wilmot and S. Toul were the only settlers in the southern

¹Mr. Darling spent the winter in the Hawes cabin, moving to his claim the next April. Of all the adult male settlers of 1868 Mr. Darling is the only one now a resident of the county. Mrs. Philo Hawes and C. O. Hawes are older settlers.

¹⁴Mr. Ferguson was a son-in-law of Mrs. Deborah Estey. He lived with the Estey family the first winter, locating on his claim the next spring.

¹⁵Rock County Herald, May 23, 1873.

tier of townships in the county, there was a shortage of flour. John Ferguson, Amos, Orville and Allie Estey took a yoke of oxen and a pair of horses, with a boat for a wagon box, while to the other wagon they hitched two yoke of steers and started, just as the snow began to thaw, for Spirit Lake for provisions.

John and Allie, at the end of twelve days, got back with twelve bushels of potatoes and one hundred pounds of flour. Mother had just one biscuit each for her family when the boys came in with the provisions. We sent Mr. Wilmot one-half of the flour and some potatoes. After that, we could get only one hundred pounds of flour at Spirit Lake, so we had to go to the Woodland mill on the Blue Earth river, 118 miles east of the Rock.

Rock county received a few new settlers in 1869, most of whom brought their families with them. Mr. and Mrs. S. Wilcox came in the summer and located on section 26, Luverne. Sylvester Norton located on section 6, Magnolia, and built a shanty. M. C. Smith arrived June 5 and located on section 13, Clinton township. J. F. Shoemaker and J. C. Kelley came to the county June 17 and selected claims under the mounds, on section 25, Mound township. Both erected log cabins.¹⁶ J. H. Loomis selected a claim on section 36, Clinton, and established his home there. Henry Martin bought the Lee Whitsell claim down the river from Luverne and was a resident of the county for several years. James Shawyer came to the county and took a claim in Clinton township close to the Luverne township line. L. B. McCollum located in Clinton, as did also Frank Mason. Andrew McKenzie took a claim on sections 13 and 14, Luverne township. A. McMurphy

located near the present site of Luverne and kept a few staple articles for sale to the white settlers. These included practically all the arrivals of 1869.

The first birth in Rock county occurred late in the month of March, 1869. It was a daughter, Elfie Ferguson, born to Mr. and Mrs. John H. Ferguson at the home of Mrs. Deborah Estey, Mrs. Ferguson's mother. The second birth occurred at the same place a week or two later and was a daughter, Laurena Bradford, born to another daughter of Mrs. Estey. The third birth also occurred the same year, a daughter, Carrie Hawes, having been born to Mr. and Mrs. Philo Hawes on August 9. The fourth birth in the county and the first boy occurred soon after. The baby was Charles Shoemaker, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Shoemaker.

The section lines of the townships of Kanaranzi, Magnolia, Vienna, Battle Plain, Clinton and Luverne were run during 1869, the first three named having been surveyed by R. H. L. Jewett and the others by Jewett & Howe. Before this time those who had located in the county held their claims only by "squatters' rights," but when the plats of these townships were received by the local land office (June 15, 1870) the settlers were able to file legal claims to their lands.

Another event of the year 1869 was the threshing of the second lot of grain raised in the county, which took place at the Estey home in Clinton township on Christmas day.¹⁷ The winter was an exceptionally severe one and "lingered in

which they passed on then way up the river. Mr. Shoemaker did not move his family to the claim until June, 1870.

ENTIRELY during the Christmas day of 1869 we boys and John Ferguson threshed wheat for mother. We had two bails. The bundles were unbound and spread out so that twelve bundles covered a space about eight feet long by twice the length of the straw, one-half on each side, with the heads turned to the center. We left an alley three feet wide outside and encircled it. Then we spread two rows of bundles clear around that with heads to the center. We yoked our three yoke of

¹⁶Messrs. Shoemaker and Kelley came together, and their settlement in the county was due largely to accident. They had been breaking land near the Indian reservation at Flandreau, Dakota territory, and in following the trail of a span of Mr. Shoemaker's mules, which had wandered away, the two men came to the claim of E. N. Darling, where they arrived June 17. Receiving no information regarding the lost animals, they proceeded up Rock river and next day were joined by Mr. Darling, who had got track of the mules. Messrs. Shoemaker and Kelley captured the animals, and then decided to select claims and locate permanently. They chose sites over

the lap of spring." Some of the settlers suffered from the cold and there were a few narrow escapes from death in the storms. Early in March, 1870, occurred a six days' blizzard. This was followed on the 21st and 22nd by another severe storm.

Several new settlers arrived in the spring of 1870, and when the census was taken by Aiken Miner, of Jackson, in the summer of that year the population of Rock county was found to be 138,¹⁸ of which 120 were American born and eighteen foreign born.¹⁹ Other interesting statistics were taken by the enumerator. In Rock county were nineteen farms, of which seven were between ten and twenty acres in area, eleven between twenty and fifty acres and one between one hundred and five hundred acres. There were 463 acres of improved land and 273 acres of woodland. The value of all the farms of Rock county was \$10,700, and the value of all farming machinery in the county was \$2200. The total (estimated) value of all farm productions, including betterments and additions to stock, was \$6650 and the value of the live stock was \$6075. The enumerator found live stock in the county as follows: Horses, 17; milch cows, 34; working oxen, 34; other cattle, 48; sheep, 9; swine, 11. Products raised in Rock county were as follows: Wheat, 130 bushels; corn, 100 bushels; oats, 600

bushels; potatoes, 480 bushels; butter, 2900 pounds; hay, 433 tons.

Among the arrivals of the year 1870 were George W. Kniss, who came May 9, and P. J. Kniss, who arrived June 6; William F. Brown, who came in June; the Gregory family, consisting of H. C., J. C., E. S., S. D. and H. A. Gregory; G. H. Plum, T. J. Clark, M. McCarthy, Dennis McCarthy, P. F. Kelley,²⁰ Cadwallder Jones, Ezra Rice, Martin Webber, who arrived September 23; Swen Sanderson, Ole Nelson, Ole T. Berg, Ole T. Opsata,²¹ John Martin, who was the first settler of Martin township; Clarence Older, William Ward, H. C. Spalding and his father, Jacob Anderson, Ole P. Steen, who settled on section 32, Clinton; and many others. A Rock county correspondent to the Jackson Republic of December 15, 1870, wrote as follows: "Although we form a little world by ourselves, yet we 'live, move and have our being.' We have had a large increase of population this season and everything indicates a heavy immigration to the county next spring. Our people are all cheerful and busy improving this fine weather in getting things ready for improvements next season."

The plats for the six townships surveyed the year before were received at the land office at Jackson on June 15, 1870, and on the 20th William F. Brown made the first homestead entry to Rock

oxen and placed our one pair of horses, harnessed, behind them; then two cows, with heads tied together, were placed behind the rest, and we formed them all in a circle around the outside. After we had muzzled all the cattle, we put them in motion to thresh out the wheat, while we took turns using the flail on the inside flooring. Thus did we thresh out the first six acres of breaking in Rock county. For dinner we had roasted racoon that the writer had caught a few days before."—Colin Estey, 1900.

¹⁸Other nearby counties had population as follows: Pipestone, 0; Nobles, 117; Murray, 209; Jackson, 1825; Cottonwood, 531.

¹⁹The places of birth of the native born were as follows: Minnesota, 13; New York, 33; Wisconsin, 19; Ohio, 12; Pennsylvania, 1; Illinois, 12; other states, 30. The countries of birth of the foreign born were as follows: British America, 5; Ireland, 5; Germany, 1; Sweden and Norway, 7.

²⁰Had been a soldier stationed at Sioux Falls. Upon his discharge in June he located in Rock county.

²¹Mr. Opsata was accompanied by his wife and six children, Tollef O., Thorston O., Nels, Olem, Marget and Gust. Messrs. Opsata, Sanderson, Nelson and Berg came in one party in September and all settled in Vienna township.

county soil.²² A little later in the summer the townships of Mound, Denver, Martin, Beaver Creek and Springwater were surveyed by S. E. Stebbins,²³ the last township, Rose Dell, not being divided into sections until 1871, when Merritt, Austin & Van Solin ran the lines.

The passing of the year 1870 marked the close of a most important era in the history of Rock county. At the beginning of the year 1867 there was not a building within the confines of the county; there was not a living person who might claim his residence therein;

not an acre of land was under cultivation; it was a virgin country, many long miles from the nearest habitation. At the close of the year 1870 the county was inhabited by probably 200 people, who had made settlement and opened farms; the lands were surveyed and staked; the county was organized and the local government had begun. From a wild, uninhabited wilderness far out on the frontier, where only a few trappers had penetrated, it had developed within four years into a civilized, progressive and most ambitious community.

²²His claim was the east half of the northwest quarter of section 14, Clinton township. In a letter to the Rock County Herald in January, 1902, C. P. Shepard, register of the United States land office at Marshall, wrote as follows concerning this first entry and the first final proof made for Rock county: "In your issue of January 10, 1902, I notice the claim of William F. Brown that he made the first final proof on government land in Rock county. The records of this office show that he made homestead entry No. 6287, June 20, 1870, for the described tract and that he made final homestead proof No. 3778, October 2, 1875. His is probably the first homestead entry made in the county, but he did not make the

first homestead proof. We find by the records of this office that there were several homestead proofs made in said county before he made his. Charles W. Hillman made final proof No. 2573, February 7, 1873, for the north half of the northeast quarter and the east half of the northwest quarter of section 2, township 101, range 45. This is probably the first proof made."

²³"A party of surveyors camped in town over Sunday on their way to subdivide the townships of Rock county not surveyed last season. They were in charge of S. E. Stebbins, of Blue Earth City."—Jackson Republic, September 3, 1870.

CHAPTER III.

COUNTY AND TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATION -1870-1878.

WHEN the early day settlers located in the unorganized county of Rock, it was attached to Jackson county for civil and judicial purposes. What little official business the new settlers had to attend to was done at the county seat village of Jackson, where was also located the government land office. There was no agitation among the settlers in favor of county organization prior to the fall of 1869. In fact, up to that time the county had a population considerably less than one hundred people (including possibly twenty-five voters), the census taken in the summer of 1870 showing only 138 inhabitants.

Although by the original act of 1857 Rock county had been created, no provision had been made for its organization. Therefore, when the settlers decided to begin county government it was necessary to secure legislative action. Late in the fall of 1869 some of the settlers, notably J. F. Shoemaker, Jonathan Phelps, Amos Estey and E. N. Darling, took the initiative in bringing about organization. A petition to the legislature was written by Mr. Darling, assisted by Mr. Shoemaker, and cir-

culated throughout the settled portions of the county. The petition was signed by every voter,¹ and the proposition met with the hearty approval of everybody. There was no public meeting held to ratify the step, but it practically had a public endorsement, for at every public gathering the proposed action was the subject of discussion among the settlers, and none argued in the negative.

The petition was sent to the lawmakers at St. Paul during the session of 1869-70. That body looked with favor on the request of the settlers from the extreme southwestern corner of the state and passed an act, approved by the governor March 5, 1870, entitled "an act to organize Rock county." Section one read as follows:

That the governor take such action under existing laws as may be necessary to organize the county of Rock, and appoint three disinterested persons commissioners to locate the county seat of said county. The place designated by said commissioners, or a majority of them, when reported to the governor, shall remain the seat of justice of said county until confirmed or changed by a vote of the legal voters of said county when submitted to them in accordance with the provisions of the constitution of the state of Minnesota.

A few months after the passage of this act the residents of the county prepared

¹E. N. Darling furnishes from memory the names of twenty of the signers, as follows: Daniel Wilmot, S. Toul, A. E. Thompson, Amos Estey, Colin J. Estey, Orville Estey, John Ferguson, L. B. McCollum, Frank Mason,

Andrew McKenzie, J. F. Shoemaker, J. C. Kelley, Sylvester Norton, James Shawver, J. H. Loomis, E. N. Darling, Philo Hawes, G. W. Blasdel, Edward McKenzie and Lee Whitsell.

and presented to Governor Horace Austin a petition asking him to appoint J. F. Shoemaker, Jonathan Phelps and Amos Estey commissioners to locate the county seat.² The governor took the necessary action and on August 9, 1870, appointed the gentlemen whose names had been suggested, instructing them to meet and select the seat of government for the new county. The meeting was held at the home of Jonathan Phelps, four miles south of Luverne, on the first day of September, all three commissioners being present. There was not much difficulty in selecting a site. Mr. Shoemaker proposed Luverne, which was then the only place in Rock county boasting a name, it having already been named by Philo Hawes, who had his home on the site. Messrs. Phelps and Estey proposed a location farther south, but finally acceded to Mr. Shoemaker's choice,³ and all signed the report which was written by Mr. Shoemaker and was in the following language: "After due consideration we have agreed to locate the county seat of Rock as follows: At Luverne, on the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 11, in town one hundred two, range forty-five."⁴

When Governor Austin selected the men to locate the county seat he also requested that a mass convention be held to suggest the names of men suitable to serve as commissioners to organize the county. His request was com-

plied with, and a mass convention was held at the home of Philo Hawes. This first Rock county convention was fairly well attended. E. N. Darling was made chairman and J. F. Shoemaker, secretary. Politics did not enter into the deliberations, the only thought being to select good men to recommend to the governor.⁵ The voting was by ballot, and the three men recommended were later named by the governor.

Governor Austin issued a proclamation on September 24, declaring Luverne the county seat of Rock county.⁶ He named Daniel Wilmot, H. A. Gregory and Abraham McMurphy county commissioners, to serve until their successors, chosen at the general election in November, should qualify. They were empowered to take the initial steps toward organization and to make provision for holding the first county election.

The commissioners named by the governor met for the first time at one o'clock on the afternoon of October 17, 1870, at the home of H. A. Gregory. Daniel Wilmot was chosen chairman and P. J. Kniss clerk of the board pro tem. Election officers were chosen for the approaching election and the county was divided into three commissioner districts. This was the only meeting held by the first board of county commissioners of Rock county, it being decided to adjourn until November 9, 1870. Provision was made for holding the next session at the home of Abraham Mc-

²"These are all residents of the county and were appointed agreeably to petition of a majority of the citizens." *Jackson Republic*, August 20, 1870.

³*Rock County Herald*, December 18, 1885.

⁴The *Jackson Republic* of October 1, 1870, enlightened its readers as to the whereabouts of the new county seat, as follows: "This is said to be a beautiful place and is near where the Yankton road crosses the Rock river. It is at the point where Philo Hawes, Esq., agent of the Minnesota Stage company, settled two years ago and where he still resides."

⁵As a matter of fact there was not much chance for political argument. All the voters who attended the convention (and all the vot-

ers in the county) were republicans with the exception of Mike McCarthy. He alone constituted the democratic party in the early days and had the honor of casting the first vote of that party in Rock county.

⁶"Now, therefore, I, Horace Austin, governor of the state of Minnesota, do proclaim and declare the said town of Luverne in the county of Rock, Minnesota, to be the legal county seat of said county."

⁷"In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the great seal of the state to be affixed at the capitol in St. Paul this 24th day of September, A. D. 1870."

"HORACE AUSTIN.

"By the Governor,

"H. MATTISON, Secretary of State."

Murphy. A complete set of county officers was chosen in November and Rock county was at last fully organized, the new board of county commissioners and other county officers taking oaths of office January 1, 1871.

Immediately following the organization, about fifty residents of the county met at the county seat and duly celebrated the event. The day's festivities wound up with a grand dance at the home of Philo Hawes, at which Ole P. Steen and Dudley Whitehead officiated as musicians.

At the time of organization the settlement was confined almost wholly to the southern half of the county and there was no immediate call for the organization of townships in the northern part, but immediately after perfecting the county organization steps were taken to bring about township organization in some of the more thickly settled portions. Between the years 1871 and 1878 all of the townships were created and were governed by township officers. While the story of the creation of the several townships under one chapter head will break into the chronological order of events in the general history of the county, it seems best to treat the matter in this place and take up the other items following the county organization at the beginning of the next chapter. The seniority of the several townships as created by the board of county commissioners is as follows: Luverne, Grant (Clinton), Beaver Creek, Magnolia, Kanaranzi, Martin, Gregory (including the six northern townships), Vienna, Albion (Springwater), Mound, Riverside (Bat-

tle Plain), Rose Dell and Dover (Denver).

LUVERNE.

The petition asking for the creation of Rock county's first township was dated February 15, 1871, and was presented to the county commissioners on that date. It was signed by E. N. Darling, Ed. McKenzie, P. J. Kniss, William Blasdell, G. W. Daniels, Horace Plum, L. A. Daniels, Philo Hawes, William Greer, John Jones, H. Sawyer, J. C. Phelps, G. Webber, S. Wilcox, S. D. Gregory and C. C. Jones. The commissioners took the requested action on February 16 and created Luverne township (named after the village), embracing the present townships of Luverne and Mound and the east half of Magnolia.

Two days later the southern tier of townships was authorized to begin township government under the name of Grant. The few settlers in other parts of Rock county were then without township organization, and to bring all parts of the county under legal government the commissioners on May 27, 1871, declared Luverne township's boundaries extended to include all of the nine present day northern townships. The action was taken in response to a petition to that effect signed by J. F. Shoemaker, P. J. Kniss, E. S. Gregory, H. A. Gregory, G. W. Daniels, P. F. Kelley, L. A. Daniels, L. McDermott, James Kelley, Horace Plum, Philo Hawes, John Ryan, Ed. McKenzie, J. C. Gregory and Stephen Wilcox. Luverne township included all this territory until it was reduced by the various acts creating other townships.⁷ Following is a list of

⁷The 1872 assessment for Luverne township, which then included the present townships of Luverne, Vienna, Mound, Springwater, Rose Dell, Denver and Battle Plain, discloses the fact that there were three sheep in the township, from which were clipped fourteen pounds of wool, and twenty-four milch cows; that 619 tons of hay were put up and 2456 pounds of butter were made. In the whole territory only 351 acres of land were under cultivation. The

acres sown and bushels harvested of the several crops were as follows:

Product.	Acres.	Bushels.
Wheat	130	1783
Oats	90	2728
Corn	79	2285
Barley	3	30
Potatoes	15	1923
Beans	2	30

settlers in Laverne township proper who received patents from the United States government under the homestead and other acts for the granting of government lands:*

Edward McKenzie (13-14), Elizabeth Gittens (12), John Jones (12), Henry Sawyer (14), Lewis T. Cooley (4), Jonathan C. Phelps (35-34), James Ryan (4), Leonard A. Daniels (28-1), James Preston (18), Joseph Jones (10), Charles F. Crosby (24), Christopher H. Spaulding (26-20), Miranda Skinner (25-36), Robert Donaldson (24), Charles M. Ellithorpe (6), Horace Plum (28), Samuel Spaulding (20), Philo Hawes (11), Gahr Anenson (24), Jacob Anenson (12), Perrin O. Needham (18), Horace A. Gregory (2), Joseph A. Forbes (22), George W. Daniels (22), Pierce J. Kniss (10), Levi Whitsell (22), S. D. Gregory (22), Martin Ryan (4), Jasper C. Gregory (26), Charles O. Hawes (10), Stephen Wilcox (26), Colin J. Estey (34), Herman Ohs (30), George W. Kniss (10), Catherina Weber (8), Anton Reder (2), Edwin Gillham (10), Nathan Benedict (28), James Wright (8), David Powell (6), Ann M. Loose (30), Henry Carner (18), Erastus G. Blodgett (8), Sears H. Scott (6), Thomas J. Bailey (26), Frank Loose (30), George S. Adron (8), Alfred S. Marsh (4), Charles Benedict (28), James H. Lyttle (6), Caleb W. Matthews (34), James Sorenson (20), George W. Blasdel (12), Henry J. Putney (34), Willherm Nurnberg (32), Pauline H. A. Michelson (32), Mitchell J. Parker (14).

GRANT (CLINTON).

Grant township, embracing the present precincts of Clinton and Kanaranzi, was created by the commissioners February 18, 1874, two days after the organization of Laverne township had been authorized. The organization of the township was perfected soon after, but it was organized under the name of Clin-

ton, after the town of Clinton, New York, and upon the suggestion of one of the residents." Upon the petition of the settlers of the new township, dated October 11, 1874,¹¹ the territory now comprising Martin township was given to Clinton, making that precinct include the southern tier of townships. It retained these dimensions until Kanaranzi and Martin townships were created early in 1873. Those who received title to government lands in Clinton township:¹²

Colin J. Estey (2-11), Daniel Wilmot (36), George W. Kniss (14), Thomas J. Clark (35), Ben Evens (22-30), Christopher C. Berg (28), Albert E. Thompson (36), John McCollum (36-34), Charles W. Hillman (2), Joseph W. Warner (3), Abraham E. McMurphy (12), James B. Shawver (18), John B. Martin (2), Bridget McKeon (8-14), Jonathan H. Loomis (36), Zelora Bailey (12), Perry L. Fassett (4), Franklin S. Mason (26), John H. Ferguson (26), Morris C. Smith (23-24), William F. Brown (14), Henry Martin (2), John A. Spaulding (34), William A. Spracher (6), Amos Estey (24), Leroy B. McCollum (26), George E. Dike (20), Thomas Olsen (22), John McKeon (8), George H. Olds (10), Donald McNab (12), Hans Olsen (28), Chauncey H. Frost (10), Peter McKeon (8), Julius Zellmer (6), Nathan C. Estey (24), Joseph Knight (12), Frank B. Frost (10), Ole Finkleson (22), Erick Evens (28), Sylvester Johnson (22), William W. Brown (14), Christian Clemetson (18), Ole P. Steen (32), Emmett S. McCollum (34), John J. Fassett (4), Clinton S. Moe (30), Abraham Stahl (20), A. Sanderson (22), Joseph T. Woodrow (20), Charles Holter (32), David Wolf (6), Frank D. Putney (4), Ole S. Birkeland (2), Thomas S. Hotvedt (32), Benson S. Bullis (14), Ole O. Rue, Jr. (20), Tobias Aanenson (4), Niels Clemetson (18), John J. Thompson (34), John P. Steen (32), John C. Peterson (20).

*Signed by L. B. McCollum, F. S. Mason, John McCollum, John H. Ferguson, M. C. Smith, W. F. Brown, J. H. Loomis, O. P. Steen, H. O. Barnes, T. O. Barnes, John P. Steen, Thomas Hotvedt, D. McNabb, Ben Evens, Erick Evens, C. C. Berge and A. E. Estey.

¹¹George W. Kniss furnishes from memory a list of some of the pioneer residents of Clinton township, as follows: A. E. Thompson, S. Tool, Daniel Wilmot, M. C. Smith, Amos Estey, Colin J. Estey, John H. Ferguson, Ben Evens, Abraham McMurphy, Frank Mason, L. B. McCollum, C. Hillman, I. Whitsell, J. C. Phelps and George W. Kniss.

This list was obtained from the index to deeds in the office of the register of deeds. In this list for Laverne township and those for the other townships which follow the seniority is maintained, those receiving patents early being at the head of the list. The first patents are dated 1872, the others extend from that date up to comparative recent times. The figure in parentheses following each name is the number of the section on which the land was located.

The name Wilmot in honor of Daniel Wilmot, one of the early settlers of the township, had also been suggested as the name of the precinct. Clinton was selected by ballot.

BEAVER CREEK.

The third town to begin local government in Rock county was Beaver Creek. There was quite a large immigration to this part of the county in 1872, including a colony from Wisconsin, and in the month of August of that year the settlers gathered in Eli Grout's sod shanty to select a name and prepare a petition for the organization of the township. There was quite a contest over the selection of a name, and many were proposed. James Comar proposed the name Beaver Creek, in honor of the stream which flows through the township, and that was selected, a name which seemed to give entire satisfaction.¹² The petition was presented and on September 10, 1872, the board of county commissioners authorized its organization, with the boundaries it has ever since held. On September 16 the commissioners named the following officers to conduct the first town meeting: E. T. Sheldon, chairman; C. R. Henton and A. H. Grout, supervisors; Eli Grout, clerk. It is said that at the time of organization there was not a frame house in the township, all living in sod shanties or covered wagons.¹³ Following are the names of those to whom government land was granted:

Warren Howard (14), Charles Williams (28), Ira Crawford (29), Robert McDowell (9-17), William O. Crawford (20), Layton L. Hale (31), Nehemiah Marsden (2), Clarence E. Older (19), James Marshall (29-32), Leander L. Bergess (21), Lorenzo D. Vickers (2), Wallace Searles (2), Edmund T. Sheldon (22), James Comar (14), William E. Vary (12), Benjamin F. Comar (15), Chester H. Evarts (34), Joseph B. Evarts (33), Henry S. Lains (24r47), James E. Vermilyea (17), John Hofelman (31),

John J. Mosier (35), John J. Conover (23r47), Tolooof Tolooofson (6-12r47), Robert O. Crawford (20-29), Eugene R. Wilcox (30), Joseph H. Adams (22), Samuel C. Hendershott (8), John Brooks (35), Hiram Brooks (35), Eugene M. Swift (2), Almon Hulett (25r47), Charles Biggs (25r47), Moses Ferguson (23), Erick F. Norelius (14), Stephen E. Timmons (12), Warren L. Kerney (28), William Nurnberg, Jr. (32), Cyrus R. Henton (22), Arretta L. Sheldon (22), Edmund E. Ells (30), Nathaniel F. Revell (4), Alfred H. Osborn (30-31), Frederick Miercort (26), Aldro H. Grout (24), Christian O. Rummeng (23r47), Ole Benson (2r47), Orlando H. Williams (27), Luther T. Bailey (17), Horace A. Pinney (35r47), Deo Datus P. Bingham (26r47), Erick Olsen (8), John M. Allen (12), Charles H. Marshall (33), Thomas D. James (29), Levi C. Bennett (25r47), Elling Anderson (7), Almon Ells (19), Ole Jens Bjerkestol (13r47), George W. Webber (4), Charles Walkup (23), John Swenson (10), Elsie Ellens (34), Joseph H. Stearns (25r47), Sam Tollefson (7), Maryett Silver (27), William Ells (19), William T. Henton (30), John Munz (33), Andrew Tolooofson (6), Silas A. Pinney (35r47), Christopher Holfer (27), Jacob Merkel (21), Mary C. Trindle (17), John Danielson (12r47), Jane Hendershott (8), Bishop I. Crossman (26), Albert E. Snow (23), Eli L. Grout (24), Kari Nelson (14r47), Charles Hitgenboeker (26), George W. Pinney (26r47), James D. Campbell (32), Lars Arneson (1r47), Tosten O. Tokheim (1r47-10r47), Albert A. Osmun (28), Howard T. Cummings (33), Ole P. Rollag (13r47), Thaddeus P. Grout (34), Louis Larson (14r47), Lars Benson (2r47), Jennie M. Grout (23r47), Christoffer O. Forseth (23r47), John Bollman (21), Knudt N. Knudtson (7), Aslag T. Tokheim (14), James B. Dunn (24), William Grout (24), Nels Skardal (2r47), Ole Arneson (6), Edward H. Bronson (27), Royal D. Buchanan (35r47), Gilson M. Henton (18), Morgan Bennett (18), Iver D. Iverson (11r47), Daniel Iverson (11r47), Abram Osmun (21), Gilbert H. Henton (21), George W. Hulett (24r47), Ira Crawford (29-32), Edmund T. Sheldon (15), Morris C. Smith (17), Hiram H. Strever (17-20), John Williams (28), Eliza Munro (20), Hans Mickelson (18), Simon A. Tobiason (6), Mikkel Mickelson (9-10), George E. Henton (30), Daniel B. Olson (12r47), Gunder L. Haugstvedt (12r47), Zane R. Biggs, (34r47), Peter Kille (4), Layton L. Hale (31), Heirs of Halvor Abrahamson (23r47), Ira H. Chapman

¹²G. H. Henton in Rock County Herald, December 14, 1906.

¹³Among the first settlers of Beaver Creek township were Eli Grout, Fred Miercort, Bishop Crossman, William Grout, Aldro Grout, Charles Walkup, Willard Walkup, J. B. Dunn, E. T. Sheldon, Moses Ferguson, Joseph H. Adams, C. R. Henton, G. H. Henton, A. E. Snow, E.

H. Bronson, James Comar, Charles Williams, H. H. Strever, Robert McDowell, Ira Crawford, William O. Crawford, Robert O. Crawford, Charles H. Marshall, James Marshall, H. Cummings, Jacob Merkel, A. Osmun, Fred Norelius, John Swenson, Alfred Erickson, Almon Hubert, Arnold Hulett, George Hulett, Almon Ells, Stephen Timmons and Joseph H. Stearns.

(26r47), Ole T. Tokheim (11r47), Lorenzo S. Welker (5-8), Ole I. Forseth (22r47), William H. Patterson (32), Willard Walkup (26), Horace A. Pinney (26r47), Elwood M. Percival (35r47), Bjorn Olson (1r47), Tosten Asbjornsen (14r47), Charles Briggs (13r47), Ole J. Bjeik (18), Jacob H. Jelle (3r47), Johannes J. Vitterhus (1r47), Lizzie E. Jordahl (2r47), Cassius C. Olmstead (34r47), Martin Oppen (4), Anne Nordvold (10), Moses Ferguson (23), Philip E. Brown (32), Eugene M. Swift (12), Fritz Hagedorn (12), John Reimer (8), Almon S. Chapman (24r47), Christ Hoefer (35), Polly McKisson (23r47).

MAGNOLIA.

The fourth township to set up a government of its own was Magnolia, which was set off from the original Laverne township in the fall of 1872. There was practically no settlement in the township prior to the spring of that year, but during the summer and fall many claims were taken¹⁴ and the residents asked for authority to organize. The petition was dated September 21, 1872, and was signed by Sylvester Norton, Charles Cook, Thor Asleson, Quinby Loveland, Stewart Young, S. S. Maxwell, Austin Maxwell, Hyrcanus Griffith, T. F. Brockway, Michael Pickett, O. D. Turner, C. B. Rolph, E. N. Darling, Robert Douglass, Riley Brooks, Philander Phinney, W. H. Halbert, James H. Gillard, R. W. Shaw, Wallace Kearney and possibly others.

The township was created by the board of county commissioners November 27, 1872, and named Magnolia, the name being suggested by Philo Hawes, one of the commissioners, Magnolia having been the name of Mr. Hawes' former home in Rock county, Wisconsin. The election to select the first officers was

held at the home of Quinby Loveland on December 18, when the following residents were chosen officers: Quinby Loveland, Charles Cook and Philander Phinney, supervisors; S. S. Maxwell, assessor; Stewart Young, treasurer; R. W. Shaw and Quinby Loveland, justices of the peace; J. Johnson and James Gillard, constables.¹⁵ Land patents in Magnolia township were granted as follows:

Eugene N. Darling (6), Stewart Young (32-28), Orlin Bassett (4), Charles Cook (32), Lucinda Norton (6), David Griffith (18), George D. Phinney (14), William C. Dean (24), Thomas McDermott (6), John Kirwin (24), Charles B. Rolph (22), S. Bailey (10), Henry Meier (10), Jacob Isaacson (24), Abram H. Turner (22), Polk Turner (20), Charles Chase (34), Theodore B. Gould (2), Oscar D. Turner (20), Robert Douglass (20), Riley Brooks (26), Quinby Loveland (22), Wallace Kenney (28), William H. Halbert (12), John Hemmingson (18), Philander Phinney (14), George B. Priestley (2), Thomas H. Williams (4), Austin Maxwell (34), Truman F. Brockway (8), Isaac Isaacson (30), Martin M. Smith (26), Thor Asleson (32), John Fugleberg (30), Ezra C. Abbott (8), Frank Henderson (28), Ole Olson (30), William McGee (10), Hiram Brockway (8), James Woodley (26), Luther F. Hovey (14), Alexander McNab (30), Owen E. Cotton (12), John T. Travis (12), Albert C. Croft (2), Michael Pickett (22), Engebrit Evenson (26), Hyrcanus Griffith (20), Stephen Conway (18), Rebecca Williams (4), Sylvester Norton (6), David Stephen (34), Peter Jordan (10), Arthur G. Dike (18), William Kienast (24), John Carlson (2), Christian J. Frahm (26), Webster R. Crosby (14), Adaline D. Gray (12), Timothy H. Hill (34).

KANARANZI.

From early in 1871 the residents of the southeast corner township had been under the local government of Clinton township, but on January 15, 1873, upon the petition of A. E. Thompson and

¹⁴A Magnolia township correspondent, writing in August, 1873, said: "In April, 1872, we located our claim on the cold and bleak prairie, with but one house in sight. On the third day of October, 1872, we pitched our tent for the first time on our claim, with but two houses to be seen, and on the first day of November we could count from our own door seven new houses, all permanently occupied by a good class of American citizens, and at the present writing there have been twenty new houses built and all occupied by a good, energetic class of farmers."

¹⁵In 1872 there were under cultivation in Magnolia township 231 acres, sown as follows: Wheat, 81; oats, 62; corn, 66; barley, 4; buckwheat, 3; potatoes, 12; beans, 3. From this crop was harvested a total of 6403 bushels. In addition to the cultivated crop 215 acres of wild hay were cut, from which were secured 480 tons. In 1873, according to the assessor's figures, the value of the personal property of the town was \$18,362, and the number of cultivated acres had increased to 850. The live stock listed was as follows: Horses, 50; cows, 69; work cattle, 28; sheep, 36; hogs, 39.

others, their territory was set off into a separate precinct and named Kanaranzi. A time and place for holding the first town meeting was selected by the board, and in a short time township government was begun. The creek which flows through the eastern and southern part of the township furnished the name. Kanaranzi is one of the oldest place names in Rock county and is probably of Indian origin. It appears upon Joseph N. Nicollet's map of 1843 as the name of the creek, being then spelled "Karanzi." Those who received government lands in Kanaranzi township are as follows:

Henry G. Boydston (24), George W. Stoops (26), Fielding F. Kitterman (8), Charles Older (30), George Ganfield (14), John Crawford (28), Jacob Rush, Jr. (6), Ole Elefsen (8), Samuel H. Griffin (10), Victor C. Stoops (26), Hulda M. Bradford (30), Marquis F. Baker (4), Wilbur A. Ely (28), Mary J. Gallup (6), William H. Maxwell (2), Bennezett Sherwood (26), Zelora Bailey (20), Jens Hanson (32), James Mitchell (30), William McNab (18), Peter Munson (6), Stillman Toul (14), Niels Peder Jensen (8), Charles W. Humboldt (10), Aseph E. Bowen (10-14), Anders C. Sorenson (32), Benjamin T. Kitterman (18), Andrew Marcellus (28), James L. Colegrove (4), Thomas Ganfield (10), Charles Langenberg (2), William McKay (18), Nels S. Nesheim (18), James Christian (1), J. K. P. Thompson (22), William H. Fabes (22), Loren M. Coon (10), John B. Shurr (34), Ole Hansen (30), Anders Rassmussen (20), Jerome E. Mitchell (34), Lyman L. Bryan (10), Henry Wellendorf (23), Peter Wiese (23), James A. Birkett (12), Byron W. Van Hoesen (34), John Huntington (2), George R. Knapp (12), Lawson L. Bryan (12).

MARTIN.

The southwestern corner township had only one and one-half sections of railway lands within its borders and its settlement in the early days was quite rapid, most of the first settlers being Norwegians. It remained a part of Clinton township until March 12, 1873, when, upon the petition of Hans Jensen and others, it was erected into a separate

political division. At this time only township 104, range 46, was organized as Martin township, the fractional part of range 47, although a long distance from the mother township, continuing to be a part of Clinton. Not until July 24, 1876, was the fractional strip given to Martin. The township was named in honor of John Martin, the first settler in the precinct. He located on section 13 in 1869 and built the first house in the township. The records show the following to have received patents to government land:

Goodman Anderson (26-27), Asle Skattum (33), Frederick Baugert (29), August Winter (32), Osmund Berkland (21-23), Elbridge D. Hadley (12r47), Frederick Finke (26-28), Gorden R. Badgeson (28), William H. Glass (12r47), Paul Olsen (22-23), William Gyke (30), Thomas B. Taylor (11r47), Calvin Denney (14), Charles J. Hadley (12r47), Haaver A. Tvanger (28), Sylvia Herrick (12r47), Erick Colby (10), Martin Benteeliet (12), Abraham Halvorson (24r47), George W. Hayes (2), Milo A. Bacon (2r47), Fred Nuffer (11), Robert Lucas (26r47), Nils Iverson (27), Charles C. Cox (8), Neils Arildson (30), John Miller (12), Christian Borchers (11), Walter M. Lee (28), Daniel R. Bowen (35), James Erikson (32), Hector V. Hamlin (5), Charles O. Hartson (2), Gerd L. Thaden (2), Hans J. Hage (6), Nels O. Sjursen (31), Elwood M. Percival (2r47), William A. Johnson (25r47), Hans Z. Hvid (24), Joseph Jacobson (24), Amund Haaverson (17), Knut O. Egge (29), Mahlon South (24r47), Julia Emson (19), Liberty Price (1r47), Hans Nireson (31), Anders Julson (9), William O. Crawford (4), C. E. Halls (18), Nels Jacobson (20), Even Finkelson (9), Hans Jensen (30), William H. Doran (8), Ole Sevatsen (8), Ole Olson (23), Endre Haaverson (21), Ole Olsen Blagen (35), Julius Thiel (12), Charles B. Trowbridge (18), Casper Taubert (4), Minerth Lukensmeyer (11), Lewis S. Sayre (34r47-35r47), Torgus O. Strandness (20), Ole H. Schien (14r47), E. B. Trowbridge (17), James Bedgood (2r47), Erick E. Sevaton (8), Niels Johaneson (22), Nels Gullickson (17), Gustav Pederson (24r47), Anna M. Aanenson (26r47), Ira H. Bowen (26), Andrew Andrewson (24), Sever Sjursen (24r47), Heirs of Gunder Sjursen (25r47), Julia Munger (1r47), Gilbert Thompson (19), Peter H. Tveten (13), Haagen Tuff (32), Henry Olsen (23), Louis Pederson (23r47), Osmund Berkland (20), Feder G. Tuff (33), Nels Anderson (24), Mary Nielson (21), Anne

P. Somdrol (34), Henrich F. Kothe (11), Haldor Knudsen (35), Christian C. Moe (22), James Oleson (14r47), Heirs of Knut Gilbertson (19), Peder O. Skyberg (15), Ole O. Skyberg (10), John O. Strand (26r47), John O. Tyler (17), William O. Ellingboe (29), John O. Goldberg (15), Andreas Gunderson (21), Gyri Magnuson (25r47), Isabell Peterson (32), Lars O. Thoreson (9), Barnheart Jenssen (2), Hans G. Hoff (31), Cynthia Cox (5), Lars Engebretson (35r47), Engbret Larson (35r47), Maggie Peck (23r47), Bent Endreson (10), Knut H. Helgeson (31), Tollef Gilbertson (18), James Eschels (11-10r47), Hiram Heath (5), Daniel T. Scofield (6-7), Hugh Stall (6), Augustus Robideau (34-30), Marit Kjos (34), Alonson C. Scofield (7), Jacob Jorgenson (3), Orlando S. Hathaway (14), Annie Johnson (11r47), Lars O. Kolsrud (26), William Jacobsen (7), Samuel H. Shoemaker (11r47), Ole M. Rudd (30), William Larson (15), Torgus O. Strandness (29), Bahne Bahnson (5), Aanen Gahrson (13r47), Olivia O. Skyberg (33), Larine Evenson (26r47), Ole Thompson (13r47), Herman Lukensmeyer (14), Frances B. Myrick (9), Gilbert Georgeson (4), Lewis Pederson (23r47), Lars T. Viste (35r47), Knud K. Dakken (26r47), Gustav Pederson (23r47), Amund T. Sexe (13r47), Ole Sandbo (22r47), Harrison White (3), DeWitt C. Prentice (3r47), Gullik G. Sundem (7), Henry F. Loeffler (1r47), Andrew Anderson (18), Heirs of Pedar Evenson (14r47), Alden O. Mudge (22r47), Ole A. Helgeson (25r47), Erik O. Loberg (15r47), Joseph Hathaway (3r47).

GREGORY.

The whole north half of the county, which from the earliest days had formed a part of Luverne township, seceded from the mother township in the spring of 1873, leaving Luverne with the boundaries it has at the present time. The action was taken on April 10, when the board of county commissioners authorized the six northern congressional townships to organize under the name of Gregory.¹⁶ The name was bestowed in honor of the Gregory family. The first town meeting was held May 2, 1873, in the stone house on the northeast quarter of section 35, in the present Mound

township, then occupied by Horace G. Gregory. Gregory township is now a thing of the past. During the next few years after its organization the several townships comprising the mammoth precinct withdrew and set up governments of their own. The township became involved financially and when it lost its last bit of territory and its name, nothing was left to apportion among its offspring except a good sized debt.

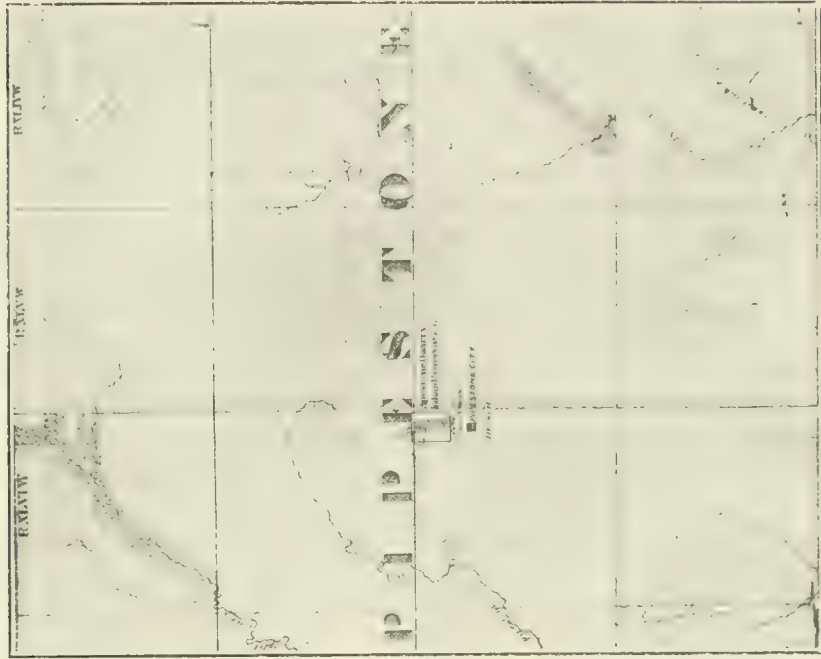
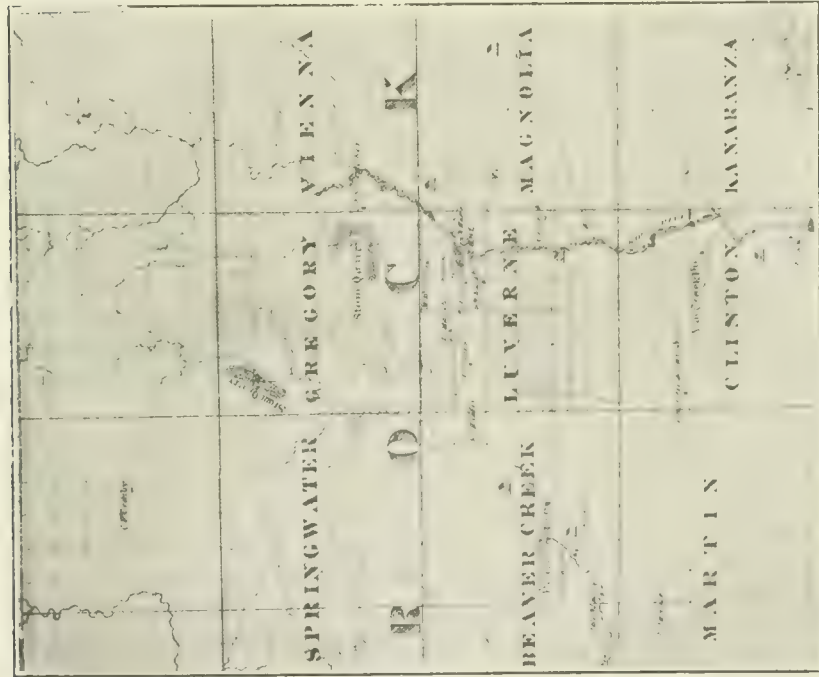
VIENNA.

The first step in the disintegration of Gregory township took place early in 1874, when Vienna withdrew. D. A. Hart, whose name headed the petition for organization, was responsible for the naming of the township. The commissioners authorized the organization on February 10, 1874, and named the residence of D. A. Hart as the place and February 28 as the time for holding the first town meeting. On that date the township's first officers were chosen, as follows: Seth Mitchell, chairman, W. R. Stowe, Ole O. Haga, supervisors; W. R. Stowe, clerk; Nelson Mitchell, Sr., treasurer; Joseph McMulkin, assessor; D. A. Hart, Nels Attleson, justices of the peace; A. G. Lincoln, Ole O. Opsata, constables. The government granted patents to land in Vienna township to the following persons:

Eugene N. Darling (31), Arne Arneson (18), Patrick F. Kelley (30), Sarah McNiel (28), Joseph McMulkin (34), William J. Moran (34), Henry Gastle (12), Levi Whitsell (32), Nelson Mitchell, Sr. (26), James Gillard (32), James H. Levery (26), Ole Nelson (18), Marget O. Opsata (18), Willis R. Stowe (24), Ole T. Opsata (20), Fred C. Fritsch (24), Knut Austensen (18), Andrew Johnson (20), Ole Olson (20), Halvor Rasmussen (6), James Halley (32), Kittil Olsen (14), Rasmus Engebretson

¹⁶The petitioners asking for the organization of this mammoth township were J. F. Shoemaker, William Ward, James Green, Jr., J. A. Rice, Ezra Rice, Horace Plum, O. O. Haga, Ole T. Borg, H. Ellis, Owen Gillard, H. C. Wilson,

P. F. Kelley, P. A. Kelley, L. McDermott, D. McCarthy, Seth Mitchell, O. O. Guldhagen, S. Anderson, T. O. Opsata, J. F. Helm, James Kelley, J. M. Helm, Hans Engebretson, C. A. Reynolds and others.



EARLY COUNTY MAPS

Maps of Rock and Pipestone Counties as Published in a Minnesota State Atlas in 1874

(22), Mathilda Larson (4), Elisha B. Robinson (20), Iver I. Peterson (14), Hosea Ellis (34), Oliver Lincoln (28), Nathaniel Lester (12), Alvey H. Lester (12), Nels Atleson (8), Engebret Frederickson (8), Ole S. Hagen (4), Iver Tastenson (8), William O'Donnell (32), Hans J. Thomte (14), William Maynes (26-28), Gunder N. Remme (10), John Scully (12), Ole T. Berg (20), Tollef Opsata (22), Albert A. Campbell (28), Abraham H. Turner (2), William H. Glass (10), Hans J. Engebretson (4), James E. Devy (6), Ole O. Haga (22), Ole Amundson (4), George Lytle (34), Knud Nelson (14), Ole Helgeson (4), Ole Nelson (22), Rasmus Johnson (10), Sampson S. Start (30), Jacob J. Berg (8), Charles E. Kleine (24), Irving Smotel (6).

ALBION (SPRINGWATER).

Late in March, 1874, the citizens of township 103, range 46, and of the fractional strip in range 47 presented a petition, headed by C. W. Curtis, asking to be set off from Gregory and organized. The signers of the petition, with two exceptions, signified their choice of Albion as a name. The township was created May 5 under that name and it was provided that the first town meeting should be held at the home of George Collett, on the northwest quarter of section 22, on May 18. The change in name from Albion to Springwater was made by order of the commissioners June 15, 1874, in accordance with the request of the voters of the new township as expressed by petition.¹⁷ Patents to Springwater township lands have been granted by the government as follows:

William A. Hackley (24), Michael Mead (26), Samuel H. Shoemaker (26), William Murphy (12r47), Thomas Murphy (8), Ernest Curtis (28-32), Frances M. Trunkey (32), Asa Canfield (24), Jacob Ashcraft (2r47), Frank A. Hyke (34), John M. Allen (32), Nelson R. Reynolds (14), James A. Claudman (12r47), Henry Munro (2), John T. Ladd (4), Alvin P. Reynolds (20-24r47), Lynn B. Cate (30), Edgar W. Eskridge (10), Wilber H. Spooner (20), George B. Collett (22), Myrta E. Curtis (28), Birch Chapin (22), Francis Rathbun

(24r47), James Ryan, Jr. (12), William P. Noble (2), Andrew Givens (12), Charles A. Reynolds (2r47), Lars Pedersen (11r47), Clause Nelson (32), Albert Barck (34), Lewis Barck (34-26r47), Oren R. Smith (14r47), Samuel Coss (34), John L. Marsden (4), William Givens (12), Daniel Hoppes (10-22), Wallace Cochrane (26r47), James D. Ladd (14), Cary C. Farnum (4), Chauncey L. Brock (2), Alfred Acheson (24r47), James Madison (18), Augustus R. Ladd (2), Perley Gillham (6), Nicholas E. Brennan (14r47), Augustus Birdsong (6), John A. Loeffler (8), Thomas Grimes (12), Ole Julson (26r47), Eliza A. Curtis (28), Nels Benson (30), James E. Chesley (30), Austine Grimes (10), Martin Williams (18), David Noonan (24r47), Alonzo C. Kimble (6), Oscar A. Headley (18-30), Patrick Gartland (8), Paul Ingleson (30), Martin Williams (24r47), Anthony B. Shroyer (14), John Halvorsen (26r47), William Coughlin (20), Timothy Bergin (8), John Hofelman (2), Burnham M. Pengra (22), Halsten Tvidt (10r47), Isaac Olson (34r47), August Birdsong (6), Platt Armstrong (28), Robert Phelan (12), Heirs of Charles Hall (14), Patrick Brennan (18), Michael Bergin (12r47) Henrick E. Jordahl (22r47), Clarence E. Dike (10).

MOUND.

The grasshopper scourge of the early seventies had a depressing effect on the settlement of Rock county and it was three years after the creation of Springwater township before there was any more township making. Mound township was the next to perfect an organization, and when that was done Gregory township was reduced to the three northern townships. Mound township was named in honor of the vast pile of rock that lies within its boundaries and was created April 21, 1877, after considerable discussion. A petition signed by J. F. Shoemaker and twenty-one others was presented to the county board April 21, asking that the board take the necessary action, and at the same time a remonstrance signed by Charles Helgeson and eighteen others was presented. After consideration the commissioners decided that the

¹⁷"Prior to this Mike Mead had immigrated to the township from Springwater, New York, and when he discovered a large spring on section 22 it doubtless suggested to him the appropriateness of the name of Springwater

for the township, which through his eloquence he persuaded the majority of the citizens to accept." C. A. Reynolds in an article on the origin of Rock county names.

township was ready for organization and named May 3, 1877, as the date for holding the first town meeting, which was held on the northeast quarter of section 34. Title to Mound township lands have been given by the government to the following named persons:

John F. Shoemaker (25-30), James Kelley (25-34), Cadwallader Jones (35), Miranda J. Skinner (28), Eugene A. Loomis (26), Joseph Dickson (36), Sarah McNeal (28), Tollef O. Tollefson (12-14), Charles F. Brannick (20), Lewis A. Lewison (32), James Green, Jr. (30), Clarence E. Older (34), Nelson R. Reynolds (30), William H. Patterson (32), S. Torgeson Omas (4), Francis Brannick (20), Ben Rice (32), Lawrence McDermott (26-36), Gerald McEnery (18), William H. Glass (34), Dennis McCarthy (28), Edward E. Needham (18), John Kelley (32), George Mead (26), Henry C. Wilson (2), Halvor Larson (4), Andrew Torgeson (10), Mary Plum (24), Peder O. Froke (10), Thora Torgeson (4), Otter Knudsen (14), Anders Froke (10), Ole Olsen (12), Jens O. Plomason (2), Andrew Olsen (2), Terge Anderson (4), Andrew Erickson (26), Sven Olesen (12), Ellen Helgeson (8), Jens O. Helgeson (8), Cadwallader J. Lynch (24), Michael McCarthy (20), Heinrich Hofelman (6), Ole Knudson (10-14), Rasmus Halvorson (12), Dennis Denovan (22), Serat Anderson (14), William C. Davis (6), Jens Peterson (10), William Ward (34), John Green (30), Michael Chambers (22), Christopher Helgeson (8), Terence Lee (28), Frederick R. Wheareatt (22), Horace F. Kilgore (20), Andrew Olson (2), James Cady (22), Fred B. Redfield (24), Zane R. Biggs (24), Heirs of Nels Nelson (13), James C. Kelley (24), Jay R. Mason (2), Clarence A. Dike (18), Clarence B. Davis (6), Edward O. Krook (14), Lewis Wold (32).

RIVERSIDE (BATTLE PLAIN).

In the early summer of 1877 Major D. E. Runals and others asked that the northeast corner township be declared organized under the name Riverside. The

commissioners created the township July 16, 1877, and provided that the first town meeting be held at the home of C. B. Rolph on August 11. The precinct was duly organized and went under the original name until March 19, 1878, when, notice having been received from the state auditor that another township in the state had a prior claim to the name Riverside, the name was changed to Battle Plain, in honor of the Indian battlefield located within its boundaries.¹⁸ Government land patents have been issued to claimants in Battle Plain township as follows:

Hugh A. Hoy (28), Frank Smith (14), James H. Mansell (2), Peter Landin (30), Nels Nelson (30), James P. Kirkham (30), Otis H. Rolfe (18), Howard F. Oliver (14), George A. Oliver (14), William Wall (26), Jasper Rolfe (18), Major D. E. Runals (32), Joseph W. Woodfield (10), David Hendershott (4), Daniel M. Hendershott (4), Charles Cowan (32), Francis L. Harrison (20), Charles A. Oliver (24), Christopher N. Remme (26), Alfred Goodwin (22), John J. Gulin (30), William H. Thompson (22), Job Haskell (12), Heirs of James W. Cafferty (26), William Munholland (22-32), James Adams (10), William C. Brockway (8-34), John Boyes (12), Byron T. Huyke (12-32), Charles B. Rolph (28), George Cole (20), William F. Warner (14), Chester Warner (22), Heirs of Samuel T. Warner (26), Jerome Cowan (20), Nehemiah D. Gilbert (6), Charles Crippen (6), Thomas E. Fitzgerald (28), John R. Norton (34), Sarah Norton (34), Edward Harvey (18), Hugh Mitchell (8), Fennimore M. Snow (2), Dennis Harvey (6), Henry D. Sample (10), Frank O. Burhans (8), Sarah J. Brockway (6), Frank L. Cronk (8), Chester O. Wellman (4), Knute G. Oldre (24), Emory T. Thorson (30), Andrew Anderson (30), Stephen Cowan (34), William H. Gordon (18), Ezra F. Cole (20), Lars Knudson (34), Ole G. Hoime (24), Charles W. Mitchell (4), James W. Mitchell (6).

¹⁸Major D. E. Runals, of Edgerton, furnishes me the following items concerning the early history of the township. The first birth was a son born to Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Remme; the second child born was Maud Cowan, daughter of Charles Cowan; the first school teacher in the precinct was Sarah J. Munholland, now Mrs. T. F. Brockway, of Minneapolis.

The Rock County Herald of June 7, 1878, less than a year after the organization said of the new precinct: "The town was organized in August, last year, is out of debt, has a wide-awake, go-ahead, liberal minded class of citizens, who are alive to all improvements which go to make up a prosperous community, and

it is withal a section with which our people will speedily establish communication if they consult their own best wishes. The first dwelling was erected in Battle Plain township in 1876; one year ago there were five or six; now they number about fifty, with several in course of erection. A school which affords instruction to about twenty pupils is in successful operation. Over one hundred acres, we are informed, are already planted to trees under the timber culture act, five hundred acres are in crop, and the busy plow-share will turn over for cultivation several hundred acres more during the present season."

ROSE DELL.

The petition for the organization of Rose Dell township was presented by W. T. Vickerman and others, and the township was declared created by the county board August 17, 1877. Mr. Vickerman suggested the name, giving it in honor of a rocky gorge, filled in the summer months with beautiful wild roses. The gorge is situated on section 25, of the fraction, a few rods west of Mr. Vickerman's pioneer home.¹⁹ The meeting to organize and select the first officers was held at the home of William T. Vickerman on September 4, 1877. Those who received government land titles in Rose Dell township:

William D. Allen (18), Wallace Searles (32), Joseph H. Craig (4), Eugene A. Loomis (36r47), Anton Larson (26), Charles H. Tinkham (32), Charles S. Bruce (20), William T. Vickerman (30), Nels O. Wemark (14r47), Charles H. Vickerman (30), Sherman E. Hawes (34), William E. Stark (4), Jerome T. Daggett (20), Gunder Hanson (12), Marthia Gilbertson (26), Frank Walsh (8), Knud K. Steen (14), Thomas E. Vickerman (18), Henry B. Noble (34), Francis Weeliver (10), Horace E. Loomis (26r47), Peter H. Norvold (2), George A. Blanchard (20), John J. Vickerman (6), Thomas McDermott (30), George W. Ganfield (12r47), Joseph Bell (22), Hans Larsen (12), William J. McGowan (2r47), Thorvold O. Holm (10), Olaf T. Engebretson (10), George Carnegie (12r47), Ole G. Twenton (4), Frank Walsh (22), Wilber H. Spooner (28-32), Thomas Ganfield (14r47), Engebret H. Ellefsen (2), Ellef H. Ellefsen (14), Ole Gulbranson (24), George Ganfield (14r47), Christian E. Lee (24r47), Engebret Lee (24r47), John Milne (2r47), Ludwig Schroeder (10), Lawrence Connelly (6), Merrick E. Kidder

(20), Ludvig M. Larson (26), George Bieber (2), Halvor Ellefson (14), Lars Haraldson (12), Anton Larson (26), Wells J. Willyard (24r47), Andrew Olson (12r47), John J. Vickerman (28), Thomas J. Vickerman (8), Howard Boice (24r47), William E. Stark (4), Martin H. Ansen (22), Ellen Halvorsen (28), George W. Vickerman (18), James Carnegie (2r47), William H. Storts (14), Josiah Kimble (32), Swain Kittleson (24-28), Isaac A. Vickerman (2), Henry B. Noble (34), Norman F. Phillips (6), Syver Haraldson (12), George H. Carr (8), Marinuis Enger (8), Jane Hendershott (26r47), Jacob O. Tveidt (22r47), Ole A. Olson (12r47), Tollef Knudson (10r47).

DOVER (DENVER).

One by one the townships comprising the original Gregory township had seceded until with the organization of Rose Dell the name found lodgment in the territory now known as Denver township. As the several precincts withdrew no arrangement was made for apportioning the debt of the mother township, and the last one found itself saddled with a good sized debt and not much to show for it except the name Gregory. The inhabitants of that territory asked for relief, presenting a petition, headed by Lars G. Kartrude, on July 15, 1878. The matter was referred to the county attorney at that time, and on July 24 the commissioners made provision for the reorganization of the township under the name Dover.²⁰

Dover township was organized and the first officers chosen at the home of Lars G. Kartrude on section 32 on August 12, 1878. It went under this name

¹⁹A Rose Dell correspondent, signing the non de plume Slocum, wrote of the naming of the new township, the communication appearing in the Herald of April 16, 1880:

"As it may not be generally known how the town derived its name, we shall try to give a feeble description of the dell itself and its surroundings. It would seem as though in the course of natural events a stream of water had formed itself and come meandering down through the valley and, coming in contact with the ridge and disdaining to go a round about way in search of a more acceptable passage, had forced itself through, cutting a space about 200 feet wide between the rocks and forty feet in depth at its greatest altitude. Slocum came along one day and being struck with the natural beauty of the place, Rose Dell suggested itself to his imag-

inative fancy, and from this humble origin the name of Rose Dell was imparted to the township.

"If you would see fair Rose Dell aright,
Go visit in the bright sunlight;
Go visit it late in the month of June,
When her shrubbery's in leaf
And the roses in bloom."

²⁰"This wipes out the so-called town of Gregory and the county treasurer is instructed to pay out all funds in his hands belonging to the defunct township for the orders of the said town and to cancel the same. The outstanding debt of Gregory is to be charged to the territory originally included in said township according to the assessment of 1878."—Herald, July 26, 1878.

until January 6, 1880, when the commissioners changed the name to Denver, having been notified by the state officials that there was another Dover township in Minnesota and that law or custom forbade two precincts in the state to bear the same name. In Denver township the United States has granted land titles as follows:

Lars G. Kartrude (32), Maren Anderson (30), Gottlieb Rogge (6), Andrew Peterson (30), John Gilbertson (30), Asle A. Thorson (34), Terge Jensen (32), Tobias Simonsen (34), John M. Grant (28), John Shertzer (12), Horace Goodale (10), Charles Gates (6), Anton E. Anderson (28), James E. Black (8), James B. Andrews (20), James Larkin (12), Artemus Kimball (6), Robert J. Cobban (20), Knud H. Braaten (6-18), John A. Mills (4), Kleber Wilken-son (18), Peder O. Froke (28), James Murphy, Jr. (24), Wilson Belknap (20), Marshall S. Blasdel (12), Jeremiah Tierney (26), Philo Hawes (4), Abigail Webber (2), Peter Von Levern (14), Ferdinand

Lemke (4-22), Herman Lenz (22), Andrew M. Helgeson (8-32), Torkel O. Sundre (34), George G. Qualley (8), Mikkell O. Bakke (20), Stephen Dockstadter (14), Johanne Houg (26), Ingre Riste (6), James Harding (14), Henry G. Brown (34), Torkel O. Bredbaken (18), Joseph Wade (2), Edwin W. Devine (28), Lars Hauger (30), Sylvester T. Wade (2), Otter Otterson (26), John W. Anderson (6), Heirs of Frederick Lenz (22), Reuben Williams (8), James Murphy (24), Dennis S. Murphy (24), Gilbert A. Williams (2), Ole H. Ellefson (18), Heirs of Samuel K. Hovey (20), William C. Mead (10), Charles McEmery (34), George A. Maderson (10), Levi M. Grandy (14), Charles Hill (10), Thomas E. Jones (12), Thomas Gleason (22), Sam Anderson (24), Richard Streeter (26).

Denver was the last of Rock county's twelve townships to organize. Since the new name was bestowed on that precinct all the townships have continued under local government with the same names and boundaries as described in this chapter.

CHAPTER IV.

ERA OF DEVELOPMENT—1871-1873.

THE organization of Rock county late in the year 1870 acted as a stimulus to settlement, and we find that more people located in Rock county during 1871 than had done so during the entire period of former settlement. It has been estimated that there were 120 people living in the county at the close of the year.¹ A correspondent to the Jackson paper, writing July 5, 1871, told of conditions in Rock county: "Immigration to the county has been very heavy this season. The weather continues dry and warm, yet crops are doing fine. I never saw better corn for the time of year than we have here. Small grain has been injured some by the dry weather."

The arrivals of 1871 secured good locations. The first choice of lands was along Rock river, where there were patches of timber, and when they were all taken the prairie sections were filed upon. The rolling prairie with its deep black soil; the picturesque Blue mounds, rising 200 feet above the general level of the country;

the river, skirted with timber and abounding with fish and fur; the long Indian summer days, lasting into the late fall; the climate so invigorating and healthful that a doctor's services were not needed—all appealed to those who had passed through many miles of sloughy, unattractive land in their search for new homes, and none sought farther.

One of the first considerations of the settlers was the establishment of schools, and among the first official acts of the officers of the new county was legislation along that line. On February 15, 1871, the board of county commissioners created school district No. 1, embracing the south half of Clinton township,² and the next day it created district No. 2, embracing Laverne township, the west half of Magnolia township and the south half of Mound township.³ The first public school in the county was held at the home of Deborah Estey, in Clinton township, and was begun in December, 1870, before the district was legally organized. Mrs.

¹Among the settlers of 1871 were Stewart Young, Dr. R. O. Crawford, J. O. Helgeson, E. L. Grout, B. S. Wold, Alex McKay, C. A. Reynolds, James H. Lytle, Ole Guldhaugen, D. Powell, Dennis McCarthy, James Green, G. W. Green, John P. Steen, H. O. Harnes, T. O. Harnes, Thomas Hadvedt, Alex McNab, Ben Evens, Erick Evens, G. W. Daniels, L. A. Daniels, L. McDermott, John Ryan, M. R. Ryan, F. Miercort, Joseph Knight, L. L. Bryan, Ole Haga, T. O. Tollefson, S. Anderson, Andrew

Froke, Jens P. Houg, J. C. McCollum, Thomas E. Hartwell.

²On October 11, 1871, in response to a petition of residents, the district was made to include the whole southern tier of townships.

³District No. 2 was created upon petition of H. Sawyer, William Blasdell, J. C. Phelps, S. D. Gregory, C. Jones, Philo Hawes, Ed. McKenzie, G. W. Webber and S. Wilson.

Richmond was the teacher.⁴ School was begun in district No. 2 the same winter and was taught in a sod shanty not far from Laverne by Ren. Vickers, a nephew of Sylvester Norton.⁵

The first death in Rock county by reason of the winter storms of the prairie occurred January 21, 1872. A Norwegian settler, Ole Ellingson by name, living about nine miles north of Laverne, was the victim. He had started to go to town on *skier* and when about two miles on his journey he was overtaken by the storm and turned and went back to within a short distance of his house, as his tracks showed. He was unable to locate the house, took off the *skier* which he had been wearing, and started traveling with the wind. A searching party found his dead body about eighteen miles from his home, within a half mile of the Laverne-Graham Lakes stage road and over the line in Nobles county. The body was found a few days after the storm but was not brought in for two weeks. The body was in a crouching posture, resting upon one knee, with the hands pressed together underneath the body, apparently in a vain endeavor to keep them warm. The tracks showed that he had traveled back and forth over the route several times.

⁴Before this first public school was begun two private schools had been conducted in the county. During the greater part of the winter of 1868-69 E. N. Darling had a private school in the cabin of Philo Hawes with Charles O. Hawes, Ed. McKenzie, J. C. Kelley, Horace Plim, Frank Beatty and one other young man as pupils. Mr. Darling was at the time residing at the Hawes cabin, and at the young men's suggestion the school was organized. This pioneer school was a popular one. From November, 1870, to March, 1871, Clarence E. Older conducted a private school in the Hawes cabin. His pupils were Ed. McKenzie, at that time the county auditor; Charles O. Hawes, Len Daniels and P. F. Kelley.

⁵Other early day school districts were organized in Rock county as follows:

No. 3—February 29, 1872. The northeastern quarter of Clinton township.

No. 4—June 29, 1872. Sections 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 34, 35 and 36, Laverne township.

No. 5—February 1, 1873. The northeast quarter of Magnolia township.

No. 6—February 1, 1873. The northwest quarter of Magnolia township.

In the same storm Ezra Abbott, who lived on section 8, Magnolia township, came near meeting death just over the state line in Iowa on Rock river. He was returning from Rock Rapids, where he had been to mill, when the storm struck. He unhitched the oxen and set out to find shelter. The cattle traveled faster than he did and he became completely lost. He soon became overcome and sank down near a tree on the river bank. He was in the storm from three o'clock in the afternoon until two o'clock the next afternoon. A searching party found his team and a little later they came up him. Mr. Abbott's legs were so badly frozen that both were amputated just below the knees and his nose was frozen off. He recovered from the terrible exposure and is alive today, making his home in Wisconsin.

The building of the Sioux City & St. Paul railroad to southwestern Minnesota late in 1871 and the opening of the line the following spring had a decided effect upon Rock county, although the line was quite a distance from the county. Immigrants poured in and took claims in every precinct, and sod shanties and little frame shacks dotted the prairies in theretofore unsettled portions.⁶ "Settler," in the

No. 7—February 1, 1873. The southwest quarter of Magnolia township.

No. 8—February 1, 1873. The southeast quarter of Magnolia township.

No. 9—April 10, 1873. Sections 20 to 29, inclusive, 32 to 36, inclusive, 13 to 17, inclusive, Beaver Creek township.

No. 10—April 10, 1873. Sections 4 to 9, inclusive, 16, 17 and 18, Laverne township.

No. 11—April 10, 1873. Sections 22 to 27, inclusive, 34, 35, 36, and the east half of sections 21, 28 and 33, Mound township.

No. 12—April 10, 1873. Sections 19, 20, 29, 30, 31, 32 and the west half of sections 21, 28 and 33, Mound township.

No. 13—May 1, 1873. Sections 19 to 21, inclusive, and 28 to 33, inclusive, Laverne township.

⁶"The prospect of coming spring seems to enliven the homesteader to such an extent that all is stir here, and times are much easier than formerly. Here may be seen a load of logs going out upon one man's claim, there a load of lumber for another, then a load of wood for a third, while others keep time with their axes, saws and hammers." Extract from a letter written March 24, 1872.

Jackson Republic, writing May 29, told of the conditions: "There is a very heavy immigration to the county this spring, far exceeding what we have had any previous season. Within the last ten days there have been no less than fifty-two prairie schooners cast their anchor in this lovely county and there are very few to leave it to look elsewhere for homes after they once behold our lovely prairies."

The immigration was so great this one year that an estimate of the population made at its close gave 1050 as the number of people residing in the county, a gain of considerable over one hundred per cent in the year. Because there was this big immigration and the whole order of things was changed, it must not be imagined that the country was developed in a day. Most of the settlers arrived too late in the season to break their land and put in a crop and consequently there was not a large harvest. Except for the fact that the prairies became dotted with the homes of settlers, it was largely the same virgin territory it had always been.

The game lover found himself in a paradise. Birds abounded. There were ducks, wild geese, brant, curlew, pelican and prairie chickens. Occasionally glimpses were caught of some of the big game that formerly roamed the prairies in vast numbers. The summer was fine. The days and nights were frequently glorified by electrical storms of terrific and ineffable grandeur. At night the settlers often sat till midnight watching the frolic of sheet-lightning playing over miles of cloud banks, vividly suggesting the possible glories of another world. Vegetation grew rank. The newcomers rode along the creek bottoms or on the edges of the ponds through seas of wild bluejoint grass up to the horses' backs.

It was the experience of a life time, this breaking up the virgin lands and

building a community from the ground up, and many were the probable and improbable stories told of those days. Letters went back to the old homes in the east telling how the homesteaders planted corn with an ax and caught fish with a pitchfork, and how the pianos were set up in the shanty and the library stacked up under the bed.

The county was visited by a severe wind, rain and hail storm on July 6, 1872, which did considerable damage. For an hour the wind blew with hurricane force, accompanied by terrific torrents of rain and hail. The growing crops were damaged considerably in portions of the county, some farmers not having enough crop left to pay for the harvesting. A few houses were moved off their foundations by the wind and one farm house was demolished.

Another event of the year 1872 was the effort to enlarge the county's boundaries. It will be remembered that when Rock county was created in 1857 its western boundary line was some ten miles farther west than at present, so that it had an area equal to that of the other counties of southwestern Minnesota. When Dakota territory was formed in 1861 Minnesota's western boundary was moved eastward and part of the original Rock county was given to the new territory, leaving the county with its present limited area. In an effort to remedy this disproportion, the legislature on February 29, 1872, passed two bills, one providing that the four townships in range 43 of Nobles county (the present townships of Leota, Lismore, Westside and Grand Prairie) should be given to Rock county, the other that the four western townships of Jackson county be given to Nobles county. Neither act was to be put in force until both counties interested in each case should, by a majority vote, ratify the acts at the general election in November, 1872.

The proposition was almost a farce. In order to add the Jackson county townships to Nobles county both the counties must vote in the affirmative. Nobles county naturally favored the bill, but just as naturally Jackson county voted not to give away any of its territory. In order to give Rock county the western tier of Nobles county townships, both these counties must so vote. Before election time, the Ohio colony had settled in Nobles county, and, knowing that they were outnumbered, the people of Rock county did not bring the matter to a vote. In Nobles only eleven electors were found who favored the surrender of territory. Rock county was destined to always remain one of the smaller divisions of the state. A few years after this abortive attempt to gain more territory another scheme failed, in which it was desired to bring about the division of Pipestone county and procure the southern half for Rock.

The county assessment for 1872 gives us an insight into conditions in that early day. When the assessment was made the only organized townships were Clinton, which included the southern tier of townships, and Luverne, which included the rest of the county. The valuations were nearly equally divided between the two precincts. The valuation placed on all property was \$84,119, of which \$15,712 was on real estate and \$68,407 was for personal property. Of the latter figure \$21,461 was exempt from taxation. In the whole county only 4925 acres (about one-third of one congressional township) were subject to taxation, the average value of which was placed at \$1.96 per acre.⁷

An agricultural statistics table for the year shows that 2189 acres were sown to crop in 1872, from which were harvested 54,449 bushels of grain. The acres sown,

the bushels produced and the average yield per acre of the various crops were as follows:

GRAIN	Acres	Bushels	Average
Wheat.....	992	13,824	13.4
Oats.....	510	15,620	30.6
Corn.....	561	13,755	24.5
Barley.....	33	480	14.9
Buckwheat.....	8	45	5.
Potatoes.....	77	10,677	137.0
Beans.....	8	148	18.5
TOTAL.....	2189	54,449	

The winter following the year of rapid settlement—the winter of 1872-73—must go down in history as a most severe one. It brought the most terrible blizzard in the county's history before or since, in which the settlers received their first experience of real hardships.

Winter began November 12. The day had been fine, but toward nightfall those who knew the northwest saw indications of a blizzard. At dark a gale from the northwest struck the houses with a whack as distinct as if it had been a board in the hands of Old Borcas. One of the famous northern blizzards was on, and there was a series of storms until the afternoon of the third day. Thenceforth it was winter. Snow fell to a great depth, probably not less than two feet, but it was so blown about and drifted by the wind that in some places there were drifts of twenty feet or more. From the time winter so set in there was little let-up in the severity of the weather. One storm followed another, and when not storming the weather was cold and severe, while the deep snows, almost constantly drifting, made travel difficult and sometimes dangerous. During that long winter the inhabitants of this part of the state were

⁷Among the items of personal property assessed: Horses, 271; cattle, 568 (of which 265 were under two years old, 313 milch cows, and

290 fat and working cattle); mules, 25; sheep, 72; hogs, 107; carriages, 2; watches, 32; pianos, 2.

practically shut out from the world. At one time there were no mails for six weeks.⁸ Many people were inconvenienced for want of necessary food, fuel and clothing. The sufferings and horrors of that long and dreadful winter will never be effaced from the memories of those who experienced them.

The ill-fated year 1873 began with the most violent storm in the history of the state from the time of its first settlement to the present date. For three days, beginning January 7, the blizzard raged, extending over the whole northwest. The temperature was about eighteen degrees below zero during the whole period of the storm. The air was filled with snow as fine as flour. Through every crevice, keyhole and nailhole the fine snow penetrated, puffing into the houses like steam. Seventy human lives were lost in the storm in Minnesota, but by a miraculous turn of fate none of these was in Rock county. It was the only county in the vicinity that escaped without loss of life.

The forenoon of Tuesday, January 7, was mild and pleasant; the sky was clear and there was no wind. It seemed as though a "January thaw" was imminent. The pleasant weather had induced many farmers to start to town on business or to the neighboring farm houses with their families to visit. About 11 o'clock a change was apparent. The sky lost its crystal clearness and became a trifle hazy. Toward noon a white wall was seen bearing down from the northwest. The front of the storm was distinct and almost as clearly defined as a great sheet. In a few minutes a gale, moving at the rate of thirty or forty miles an hour, was sweeping the country; a full-fledged blizzard had supplanted the bright sunshine in a few minutes. The air was so completely

filled with flying snow that it was impossible to see objects a short distance away.

Forty men were in Luverne when the storm struck, and, although many of them had families at home illy prepared to meet such a storm, none ventured to reach his own place but all remained in town until the storm abated. They found shelter with friends or at the hotels. Even some who were caught away from home in the village, only a few block away, did not attempt to brave the dangers of getting home. All Tuesday night, Wednesday and Wednesday night the storm raged with unabated fury. Not until Thursday was there any perceptible let-up, and not until Friday was the storm over. Several Rock county residents were caught on the prairie in the storm, and some were obliged to spend two or three days in deserted claim shanties, but all were found alive after the storm.

Several Martin township farmers were caught in the storm while on a trip for wood on Rock river and had narrow escapes from meeting death in the storm. One such party was composed of Ole O. Rue, Sr., Ole O. Rue, Jr., Nels Anderson and John Goldberg. Just as they reached the edge of the timber the storm broke. The men got their cattle within the grove, and there the unfortunate men were obliged to pass the night. Mr. Rue states that he had all he could do to keep the other members of the party on the move; they begged to be permitted to sit down and rest, which, of course, would have been fatal. About daylight Messrs. Anderson and Goldberg went out of the grove to seek a place of shelter, but they could find none and returned with badly frozen faces.

About noon the weather cleared a little—enough to permit the storm-bound men

⁸Owing to the snow blockade on the railroad and the high water between here and there we have had a very irregular mail for the last two weeks and expect to be treated

in the same manner for some time to come."—Letter from Luverne, dated March 29, 1873. (It was April 12 when the first mail arrived.)

to see the sun and get their bearings. Then they set out for the west in an effort to reach their homes. Ole O. Rue, Jr., led one yoke of oxen and the other members of the party clung to the tails of the oxen and kept close together. In that manner they safely reached the home of Henry Martin, where they secured shelter for the night. During the night Mr. Goldberg, who was more badly frozen than the others, was in great agony, and, believing himself to be dying, he bade his comrades good-bye. He subsequently recovered. All the members of the party reached home after spending the night at Mr. Martin's.

Erick Colby was another Martin township farmer who went to Rock river after wood that awful day. He reached the timber just as the storm struck, but, braving the dangers of the blizzard, he at once set out for home and reached it in safety.

Another adventure that is worthy of record befell Mrs. Goodman Anderson, of Martin township, while her husband was with the party after wood on the Rock river. She was washing when the storm struck, and so intent was she with her work that she failed to notice the severity of the storm until the fine snow commenced to drift in beneath the door and fill the room. Then she thought of the cattle outside and made an attempt to get them into the stable. All went in willingly except one headstrong two-year-old critter, which chased off down Mud creek with Mrs. Anderson in pursuit. She finally gave up the chase, only to discover that she was lost in the blizzard. After half an hour's wandering, whither she

knew not, she ran into the stove pipe which extended from the roof of the dug-out in which the family lived. This accidental collision with the stove pipe saved the lady's life. She was then able to find the door of the dug-out and reach safety.

Despite the ushering in of the year 1873 with the terrible January storm, the year opened auspiciously. New settlers arrived in the spring, and the settlements of Rock county were indeed in a flourishing condition. As estimate of the population made in the first issue of the Rock County Herald (May 23, 1873) placed the number of inhabitants at 1200. This would indicate an immigration of about 150 during the early spring months. Most of the new comers located in the western part of the county, principally in Beaver Creek and Martin townships.⁹ Before this time all woodland claims had been taken, and the choice prairie claims were sought out. On nearly all lands taken were planted fast-growing and hardy trees, including the Lombardy poplar, cottonwood, soft maple and other varieties. It was estimated that between eight hundred thousand and a million cuttings were planted in Rock county during 1873.

The settler arriving in the spring of the year could secure homestead lands in portions of the county farthest from the earlier settlements without cost,¹⁰ he could secure pre-emptions in the same localities for \$1.25 and \$2.50 per acre, or he could buy the railway lands (odd numbered sections in Kanaranzi, Magnolia and the south half of Vienna townships) at prices ranging from \$5.00 to \$7.50 per acre, according to location.

"Big loads of lumber and goods go through Laverne every day for Beaver Creek and that part of the Beaver valley just this side of the state line." *Herald*, June 20, 1873.

"We have lively times in our town now. The west end is filling up fast. The houses of a substantial kind are springing up all over the prairie." *Beaver Creek Correspondent*, June 27, 1873.

"Mr. G. Anderson says that there are nearly

200 voters in the town of Martin, and nearly all are Norwegians."—*Herald*, October 10, 1873.

¹⁰"I saw a statement in the Rock Rapids Journal, saying that this county was all taken up by homesteaders. In justice to Rock county, I will state that there are yet thousands of acres of government land in this county subject to homestead or pre-emption rights."—*Rock County Correspondent to Jackson Republic*, April 5, 1873.

Those who had come the preceding years set to work with a will to break out the raw prairie land, and great were the expectations for the crop of 1873, the first crop of any size planted in the county. The grain grew beautifully during the spring months; the faith in the soil was justified. Everybody was enthusiastic over the prospects. Then came the never-to-be-forgotten plague—the grasshoppers—and the country that had looked so prosperous was wrapped in gloom. Adversity followed adversity. The frowns of fortune overwhelmed those who had come with so much hope and cast them into the slough of despond. Immigration ceased; farmers, mechanics, merchants, everybody, became discouraged at once. The picture could hardly be painted too dark.

Prosperous as Rock county is today, one can imagine the suffering a series of almost total crop failure would bring. Picture, then, a settlement of some 2000 people with practically no means—people who had come because they were poor and because they believed the new country offered opportunities for securing a home and a competence—devastated by a scourge which took away the only means of earning a livelihood. Some of the Rock county settlers had left their old homes in the east with a railroad ticket as their only asset, and even before the grasshopper days a few were in sorry plight. For a series of years beginning with 1873 the people of Rock county, in common with those of all southwestern Minnesota, suffered as few pioneer settlers in any country ever suffered.

It was during the first part of June, 1873, that the plague came. A peculiar appearance was noted in the sky; the sun seemed to have lost some of its brilliancy, as though darkened by clouds of fine specks floating high in the air from west

to east. Some believed that the specks were the fluff from cottonwood seeds. They kept increasing in number, and after a while a few scattering ones began falling to the earth, where they were found to be grasshoppers, or Rocky Mountain locusts—forerunners of a scourge that for several years devastated this part of the country and resulted in the retardation of settlement for many years. The flight kept up several days, and a great many came down and feasted on the growing crops and deposited their eggs, although the damage done in this initial invasion was comparatively slight. The Rock County Herald of June 13 announced the arrival of the first flight of grasshoppers:

"The grasshopper shall be a burden." Possibly the writer of these words had his lettuce and sweet corn eaten by the ancestors of these jerk-gaited insects which are now arriving on a visit to us and our neighbors. He knew them like a book. Some of our neighbors fear that the few millions which have put in an appearance here are but the scouts or advance guard of an overwhelming force which is coming to "occupy the land." They predict ruin and devastation of the crops. We hope these forebodings are not to be realized.

Within a week after their arrival all the pests had disappeared. The gardens were nearly ruined and there was some small damage to spring wheat; otherwise the visitation resulted in little loss.

On Tuesday, July 29, the raiding hordes swooped down on the country in countless millions. They spread out over the wheat, oat and corn fields and ate ravenously, the oats being the worst damaged. Thanks to weather conditions, their stay was only five days, and the damage to crops was not total. On the night of July 31 there was a heavy rainfall, and a brisk breeze sprang up from the south-east. On the first of August the hoppers began taking flight with the wind, and on the following day all had disappeared. Farmers began to cut their grain to save

it, literally snatching it out of the grasshoppers' mouths. The outlook was gloomy. The Herald on August 1 told of the second invasion:

The worst of Minnesota's pests is at last among us, and clouds on clouds of grasshoppers are around us, and the air is filled with them, and the earth is covered with them. It is impossible to describe the injury they are doing to the crops. The only word we have heard yet that approximates the extent of this affliction was repeated to us last night—"awful." Today they are the only subject of conversation on our streets, and the question is, will they leave before everything is gone? This question finds a ready answer: Should they stay twenty-four hours longer, they will eat up everything.

We visited a number of fields of grain last night, and have just returned from visits to others this morning, and our pen is too feeble to give anything like a fair description of what they are doing. We saw grain that looked at a distance as though the black blight had enveloped it; on a nearer view nothing but grasshoppers was seen, the stalk and head being entirely covered. Corn we saw completely covered with them, and this morning we hear of many fields that present nothing but the bare stalks; in a few hours all had been destroyed. We learn that their lines extend from Beaver Creek on the west to and beyond the east line of the county. They vary in numbers in different localities, being thicker in and about Luverne and the Beaver Creek settlement than east of here.

The damage done by the locusts in 1873 was great, but the loss was not total by any means. While the pests were in the fields the gloomy anticipations led to exaggerated reports, which were not verified later. On the other hand, the county newspaper, in accordance with the custom of pioneer journals to report nothing that would tend to retard settlement, reported good crops and prosperous times.¹¹ The continued reiteration of these glowing accounts of Rock county's prosperity resulted in hardship to many of the needy the following winter when they asked for assistance from the state relief organizations. Added to the general despondency was the stringency of the money market following the panic of 1873.

The assessment for the year 1873 furnishes figures illustrating the conditions in the spring of the year and the development of the county. While the total assessed valuation in 1872 had been less than \$85,000, the following year showed over \$166,000 valuation. Following is shown the number of acres of land taxed in each precinct, the assessed value of real estate, personal property and the total valuations:¹²

TOWNSHIPS	Acres Taxed	Real Estate	Personal Property	Total Value
Luverne	4937	\$25,168	\$29,319	\$54,487
Clinton	3051	10,637	16,159	26,796
Beaver Creek.....	1760	4,246	12,187	16,433
Kanaranzi.....	1120	2,296	9,518	11,814
Gregory*.....	4040	10,247	18,724	28,971
Magnolia	875	2,555	14,265	16,820
Martin.....	1920	4,368	6,639	11,007
TOTAL	17,703	\$59,517	\$106,811	\$166,328

*Including north half of the county.

¹¹"To all in neighboring counties who are unfortunate in having had their crops scorched with the drought, devoured by grasshoppers or drowned by floods, we will say that they ought to have settled in Rock county, where rich fields of golden grain reward the husbandman. We want it to be remembered that while people not a hundred miles from us have no crops to speak of, owing to some of the causes aforesaid, here in Rock county, Minnesota, are good crops generally, and especially of wheat. Oats are excellent, but were somewhat damaged by the grasshoppers. It does one's heart good to ride over the prairies and see the rich grain fields." Herald, August 15, 1873.

"The fact is there were a great number of grasshoppers here at one time. It was impossible to tell what the extent of their ravages would be, and people were badly frightened and exaggerated the damage to the crop. After they had gone it was found that wheat was not materially injured and that there would be a two-thirds crop of oats. No injury was done to the grass and very little to the corn. In substance: The oat crop of Rock county is fully a two-thirds crop, and the wheat and corn are not materially injured by the grasshoppers or anything else."—Herald, September 12, 1873.

¹²Less the \$100 exemptions.

Other statistics gathered by the assessor show the development in one year. In 1873 there were 297 farms. The live stock consisted of 365 horses, 499 milch cows, 397 beef and working cattle, 152 sheep and 259 hogs. The wheat acreage was nearly four times as large as the previous year, the oat acreage more than double and the corn nearly double. Fol-

lowing was the acreage of the several crops: Wheat, 3450; oats, 1306; corn, 1140; barley, 153; buckwheat, 56; potatoes, 124; beans, 20; sorghum, 81½; flax, 34; other crops, 60.

Five schools were conducted in Rock county during the summer of 1873, in which were enrolled a total of ninety-three pupils.¹³

¹³The schools, teachers and number of pupils enrolled were as follows, according to the superintendent's report: No. 2 (Luverne), Miss Jennie Grout, teacher, thirty pupils; No. 11 (Gregory), Miss Rosa Farry, teacher, twelve

pupils; No. 6 (Magnolia), Miss Ella A. Loveland, teacher, fifteen pupils; No. 9 (Beaver Creek), Miss Ella Grout, teacher, twenty-four pupils; No. 3 (Clinton), Miss Jennie Knight, teacher, twelve pupils.

CHAPTER V.

CALAMITOUS DAYS—1874-1877.

NOT until winter set in did the people of Rock county realize the gravity of the situation resulting from the grasshopper visitation of 1873. Then, even the local newspaper, which before had maintained that Rock county had harvested an abundant crop and that conditions were excellent, admitted that most rigid economy must be practiced to prevent suffering during the winter months.¹ As a result of the destruction of crops and the tightness of the money market (particularly in the grasshopper devastated regions), many families in Rock county were in destitute circumstances, although their number was not so great as in some of the neighboring counties.

Petitions from all the stricken counties were poured into the legislature, asking for appropriations for relief. Realizing the gravity of the situation, the Minnesota law-making body, late in January, 1874, appropriated \$5000 for the relief of the destitute in the frontier counties and enacted a law extending the time of payment of personal property taxes until

November 1 in the counties of Jackson, Cottonwood, Murray, Nobles, Rock, Watonwan, Lyon and Lac qui Parle.

No concerted action for the relief of the destitute was taken locally until January 11, 1874. On that day a meeting of residents of Rock county was held in the school house in Luverne to devise means of caring for those suffering for want of the necessities of life. George W. Kniss presided over the meeting and W. O. Crawford was secretary. There was a general discussion of ways and means of meeting the crisis. For the purpose of soliciting, receiving and distributing contributions, a committee composed of P. J. Kniss, W. O. Crawford and T. P. Grout was named. Those gentlemen at once entered upon their duties. By conferring with the township officers in each precinct, they obtained the names of all persons in the county requiring immediate aid. Application was made to the state relief committee, of which General H. H. Sibley was chairman, for a share of the funds that had been privately donated. One hundred dollars, the first of the relief funds to be

¹"We are not desirous of meddling with our neighbors' business or volunteering to give advice, but we think that a few words of caution in one respect may not be amiss. Therefore, in view of the multitude of small debts outstanding against the citizens of Rock county and the scarcity of money wherewith to pay the same, we urge our readers to prudence in business matters and the use of caution in contracting debts. Better to economize and

deny ourselves the enjoyment of many desirable things than to get them on credit, trusting to the future for an easy pay day. The present winter will probably be the hardest time we shall see in this part of the country, and better times are in store for us, in common with the whole country, but the practice of rigid economy now is of the utmost importance."—Rock County Herald, December 6, 1873.

sent to Rock county, were received by the local committee from General Sibley about January 23,² and distribution was commenced at once.

Other sums were received from the state relief committee, the total amount having reached \$300 early in February. According to the first report of the distributing committee (T. P. Grout, treasurer), made February 6, the first one hundred dollars were divided among eighteen needy families, by precincts as follows: Three families in Magnolia, \$15.57; three in Gregory, \$10.09; two in Clinton, \$11.48; three in Beaver Creek, \$15.00; two in Luverne, \$14.45; seven in Martin, \$33.03.³ The funds handled by the state committee were raised by private subscription.

Rock county's share of the \$5000 appropriated by the state was received early in February. The following letter from Governor C. K. Davis gave instructions for the distribution of the meager portion of the funds apportioned to Rock county:

To Messrs. P. J. Kniss and J. H. Loomis, Luverne, Minnesota: At a conference which was held at the executive office on the evening of the thirtieth instant, between the governor and the representatives and senators from the districts whose people are entitled to relief under the act appropriating \$5000 for that purpose, you were commended to the governor as proper persons to assist in the distribution of the appropriation in Rock county.

The act makes no provision for your compensation, and it is taken for granted that your services will be rendered gratuitously in such a cause.

²"St. Paul, January 21, 1874.
"P. J. Kniss, Esq., Luverne, Minnesota.
Dear Sir:—I have received your application for aid to your destitute sufferers through Senator Freeman. It is to be regretted that the condition of the people of your county had not been made known at an earlier period, while I had at my disposal large quantities of clothing and other supplies, of which a just proportion might have been furnished to the sufferers then. These articles have been distributed to a large extent in other localities, it having been understood here that your local paper denied that there was a state of things existing in Rock county calling for any outside interference or aid, and intimating that a proffer of assistance would be regarded as impertinent and unsought for. Now that the facts indicate an entirely different condition of affairs, we must do what we can in the way of

A remittance will be made to you at once. This money is to be used to alleviate present suffering and is not to be diverted to the purchase of seed. The legislature is now engaged in maturing a bill which will meet that case. In performing your duties you will please observe the following general instructions:

First. It is wished that you give relief only to persons whom you may know to be deserving, from personal inspection of their condition as far as practicable. To this end it is recommended that one of you go personally to the localities claiming aid unless they have been previously visited.

Second. The sum remitted is to be expended only for such articles of food as are of prime necessity and for medicines. Expend no money for spirits, tobacco, tea, coffee or sugar.

Third. Do not pay money directly to parties seeking relief. Purchase and deliver to them the specific articles which you think they may need.

Fourth. So far as practical, make your purchases of the dealers doing business at or near the places to be aided, and in every case pay for what is bought and send to this office forthwith a receipted and itemized bill of the articles purchased.

Fifth. Deny all applications when you are satisfied that the applicants can do without the aid. In case persons are owners of surplus stock which they can sell, deny relief.

Sixth. Take from each person aided, or, when this is impracticable, from the person to whom any articles are committed for distribution, a receipt upon the form which is herewith enclosed, and send the receipt to this office. You will please comply strictly with this request, for the reason that the governor is intrusted with the distribution of this fund, and he will require these receipts as his vouchers. Be particular to enter in the receipts the quantity and price of every article issued.

Seventh. As this remittance is not intended to buy clothing or blankets, please send to this office at your earliest opportunity a statement of the least number of blankets, cloth, thread, etc., which will be

contributions. Today I send to your address, per express, a package containing \$100 in currency, to be expended by your committee for the most effective relief of the most needy. You will please send me a receipt for the sum when it reaches you, and keep and dispatch to me an account of the manner in which the money has been employed. Send me also a statement of the number of families requiring aid and the particular articles of which they are in immediate want.

"Yours truly,
"H. H. SIBLEY.
"Chairman Relief Committee."

³The third report of the committee, dated February 19, showed distribution as follows: In Magnolia township, \$38.65; Gregory, \$37.35; Clinton, \$17.81; Beaver Creek, \$36.75; Luverne, \$29.22; Martin, \$35.53; Kanaranzi, \$10.00.

needed in the places to which your action extends. Please reduce this estimate to the lowest possible amount.

Eighth. Make a report of your doings to this office on or before March 1, 1874, giving names and places of residence of the persons who have received aid, accompanying such report with the vouchers required by instruction No. 6. The bills mentioned in the fourth instruction should be sent at the date of the purchase which they cover.

I have been thus explicit in these instructions because there are many outside of your precinct who are to receive their share of this appropriation, and I am extremely desirous that there shall be a fair and equal distribution of its proceeds.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. K. DAVIS, Governor.

The amount received from the state executive was \$215. This was distributed, in supplies, among forty-one families, making an average of about \$5.25 to a family. In his report, dated February 20, P. J. Kniss told of the amounts distributed by precincts, as follows: Martin, \$51.08; Beaver Creek, \$40.69; Magnolia, \$40.09; Gregory, \$32.29; Luverne, \$22.56; Clinton, \$10.15; Kanaranzi, \$8.47. In addition to these amounts, Mr. Kniss reported having paid \$25.00 to J. H. Loomis for disbursement, making a total of \$239.33.

Relief supplies were also received from other sources. Early in March a box of goods, containing clothing, etc., was received from the governor and was distributed by Mrs. T. P. Grout. The National Grange donated \$1000 for members of the order in the grasshopper devastated counties, to be used in the purchase of supplies and seeds. The Rock county committee made application for a share

of this donation, but its application was received too late, and no supplies were received from that source, the money having been apportioned among the needy grangers of Cottonwood, Jackson, Martin and Nobles counties.

It was early learned that many farmers would not have grain for seeding purposes in the spring of 1874, and the legislature, in February, appropriated \$25,000 for supplying this want. This amount proved insufficient to supply the demands placed upon it.⁴ Rock county's share, 1200 bushels, was received late in March, and the distribution was completed early in April.⁵

An event of this disastrous period was the creation of the Rock county district court. The county was made a judicial district of itself upon the passage of a bill introduced by Senator E. P. Freeman in February, 1874.⁶

If there had been a belief that the grasshopper scourge was to be only a temporary blight on the prospects of Rock county, it was rudely dispelled. The visitation of 1873 was as nothing compared with what followed. The story of the years to follow is one of heartrending misery. From Manitoba to Texas the grasshoppers brought desolation and suffering in 1874, the visitation being general along the whole frontier. Especially destructive were they in southwestern Minnesota and in Kansas and Nebraska.

A fairly large acreage was sown in Rock county in the spring of 1874. Then came anxious days. The grasshopper eggs which had been deposited by the visiting hordes the year before began to hatch during

⁴"Now that spring is here, it is ascertained that with the small appropriation a great portion of the plowed land will remain unseeded, as it is impossible for many of our extremely poor to obtain seed."—Rock County Herald, March 13, 1874.

⁵"Parties applying for seed grain will have to make affidavit that the grain is to be used for seed only, and that they have no means of their own with which to purchase seed, and that they have no seed. (Dated) March 25,

1874. (Signed) P. J. Kniss, T. P. Grout, W. O. Crawford, Committee."

⁶When settlers first located in Rock county the southwest corner county was attached to Martin county for judicial purposes, March 7, 1870. Jackson, Nobles and Rock counties were detached from Martin, and thereafter Rock county cases were tried in the Jackson county district court. The Nobles county district was created February 27, 1873, to which Rock county was attached until the following year.

the first days of May.⁷ While the pests had been considered numerous the year before there were now more than ten times as many. The appetites of the youngsters were good, and they began their ravages as soon as the first tender blades of grain appeared. Whole fields were stripped entirely bare in those portions of the county where the young hoppers were most numerous. Had the ravages of the native hoppers been the only damage, the county could have borne the infliction. A fine growing season caused the crops in many places to get ahead of the young hoppers. Wheat and oats were growing splendidly, sod corn was an especially promising crop, and all garden vegetables were growing as they seldom have since. The wings of the young hoppers having fully developed, about the middle of June they began their flight out of the country. For several days, from ten o'clock in the morning until three in the afternoon, the air was filled with the winged emigrants, all traveling in a northeasterly direction. It was hoped that the ravages for the year were at an end, but it was not to be.

During the first days of July came an invasion of "foreign" hoppers out of the northeast, which made it evident that the country was not to escape with the damage done by the native pests. The destroying agents remained in Rock county several days, doing great damage. But the loss by this invasion was not total.

About the middle of July the grasshoppers were again seen coming out of the northeast, and this visitation resulted in almost total annihilation of crops. Before they departed the county was literally

alive with them. And what havoc they wrought! So thick was the air with the flying pests that at times the sun was partially obscured. They appeared to the people below like a vast cloud, sweeping sometimes in one direction, sometimes in another—always going with the wind, but never traveling any distance to the west or northwest. At evening when they came down near the earth, the noise they made was like a roaring wind. Those that alighted on the prairies seemed to know where the grain fields and gardens were and gathered in them from all directions. Every cornstalk bent to the earth with their weight. The noise they made eating could be heard from quite a distance and resembled that which might have been made by hundreds of hogs turned into the fields. In fact, such was the destruction that within four hours after they came down, whole fields of corn and small grain were as completely harvested as though they had been cut with a reaper and hauled away. It was a discouraging sight.⁸

After gorging themselves with the crops, the hoppers sometimes piled up in the fields and along the road often to a depth of one or two feet. Horses could hardly be driven through them. Stories have been told of railway trains becoming blocked by the pests so as to be unable to move until the insects were shoveled from the track.

This second successive crop failure was a terrible blow. A great many who had not been hard pressed by the conditions in 1873 were now reduced to the common level; their savings had been spent and

⁷The process of hatching was interesting. In each nest, a half inch or more below the surface of the ground, invariably in hard earth, were from twenty to fifty eggs. When the sun warmed the ground sufficiently to hatch the eggs, the pithy covering of the nest popped off and a squirming mass of little yellow hoppers poured out. Each was encased in a sort of shell or skin, which it immediately began to pull off. Then, after taking a moment's view of the world, each little hopper

hopped away in search of something to eat. At birth they were about a quarter of an inch long and had no wings, but these developed rapidly.

⁸According to the report of the commissioner of statistics, the loss of the several crops in twenty-eight counties of Minnesota in 1874 was as follows: Wheat, 2,646,802 bushels; oats, 1,816,733 bushels; corn, 738,415 bushels; barley, 58,962 bushels; potatoes, 221,454 bushels; flax seed, 52,833 bushels.

they had no income. Those who were not compelled to live on charity were compelled to practice most rigid economy. Hay furnished the fuel; potatoes, pumpkins and squashes—a few vegetables left by the hoppers—supplied the bulk of the food. Meat was not on the bill of fare, except for those who could use a gun and bag the prairie chickens and ducks that were in great abundance. In this manner a large number of the settlers were obliged to pass the winter. They bore their trials more cheerfully than might have been expected and made preparations to try their luck again next year.

The question naturally arises: Why did the people of Rock county stay in a country in which the grasshoppers wrought such damage? It is doubtful if they would have remained could they have looked ahead and foreseen what they still had to go through, for this was not the end of the scourge by any means. A few discouraged ones did depart for their former homes. All who could went away each summer to work in the harvest fields of more fortunate communities and earn enough to supply their absolute needs.

The majority stayed with their claims and weathered the storms of adversity. Hope was abundant that each year's visitation would be the last. The fertility of the soil had been demonstrated, and it was known that once the country was free from the pests, it would become one of the richest spots in the west. The settlers had inversed all their accumulations of former years in improvements, and to desert the country meant that they must go as paupers. Many were literally

too poor to pay transportation charges out of the country.

Those requiring relief during the winter of 1874-75 were, of course, more numerous than during the preceding winter. An appropriation for relief was again made by the legislature, and \$15,751.56 was distributed among the needy in the grasshopper devastated counties.⁹ Rock county's share, \$1400, fell short of the requirements. Clothing and other relief supplies were occasionally received during the winter from private sources—supplies which meant much to suffering settlers. The United States government, in a small way, assisted in the care of the unfortunate people by the distribution of army rations and clothing. The distribution was made in the vacant Howard building on Main street, Luverne. Again the legislature granted an extension of time for the payment of taxes in some of the counties, and, of course, Rock county was among the number. Times improving but slightly, the extension was of little benefit. People who had not money to buy food and clothing could not pay taxes.¹⁰

Notwithstanding the terrible experiences of the two preceding years, the farmers determined to put in a crop in 1875. The ground had been prepared, but the farmers were without seed grain and without the means to purchase it. The legislature came to their rescue with an appropriation of \$75,000, the act providing for the distribution of seed grain to that amount, with certain provisions for its repayment. A state board of commissioners was appointed to conduct the distribution, and a local board was named in each of

⁹The apportionment by counties was as follows: Pinewood, \$200; Martin, \$1363.87; Rock, \$1400; Cottonwood, \$3237.02; Watonwan, \$1808.83; Jackson, \$2817.82; Murray, \$1902.82; Nobles, \$1952.82; Brown, \$300; others, \$768.38.

¹⁰The act was passed March 1, 1875, and provided for the extension of time of payment of

personal property taxes to November 1 in the counties of Martin, Jackson, Nobles, Rock, Murray, Cottonwood, Watonwan, Renville, Lyon and parts of Blue Earth, Faribault and Brown. In order to secure the extension it was necessary for the residents to give proof that they were unable to pay their taxes because of loss of crop in 1874 from grasshoppers or hail.

the stricken counties to assist in the work. The money market was constricted, and the state was not able to procure the cash to purchase more than \$50,000 worth of grain. With the seed received from the state and that which was in the county, there was enough to seed a part of the prepared land in Rock county.

Days of anxiety following the appearance of the grain above the ground. Would the grasshopper scourge again come with its ruin and desolation? As the season advanced the people with deep concern scanned the skies for the appearance of their old enemy. As eggs had not been deposited in Rock county the preceding season, there were no young hoppers, and the only apprehension was in regard to an invasion by the "foreigners." Tidings soon came. On Monday, June 28, it was reported that a vast army was on its way to the northwest from Iowa and other states to the south, headed, it was said, for the Bad Lands of Dakota. They passed over Sioux City in great numbers and extended north to Sheldon. A few stragglers along the right flank of the army were seen in Rock county and created some apprehension and caused a great deal of upward gazing. But the settlers thanked Providence that, so far, they were in the suburbs of the movement. One curious feature of this movement was that it came from the southeast; before, the hordes generally came out of the northeast. What few were seen passing over Rock county

did no damage whatever. A report from Luverne early in July was to the effect that no damage had yet been done and that in Rock county the stand of grain was the largest ever known.

The county was free from the pests until Saturday, July 10. Then a part of the Minnesota valley hatch came from the northeast, feasted a few days on the growing crops and departed, doing small damage.¹¹ The settlers kept track of the movements of the grasshoppers as they would have those of an invading army of soldiers. They knew that only by chance would they escape. They felt as though the sword of Damocles were suspended over them, ready to fall at any moment.

The respite was not long. The dreaded pests appeared again about July 22 and for several days were engaged in eating grain and depositing their eggs. They left the county during the closing days of July and spread out over northwestern Iowa. The invading army of 1875 was not so numerous as that of the year before, neither did the pests eat so ravenously as formerly. They appeared to be of a degenerate breed, and bushels of them died after depositing their eggs. It was a ragamuffin, Falstaffian army compared with that of 1874.¹²

In individual cases the loss of crops was quite severe, but generally in Rock county the damage was slight, and a big percentage of the crop was saved.¹³ The farmers eagerly began the harvest, and

¹¹"Within the past fortnight the hoppers have deployed from the Minnesota river region. . . . In Rock county the damage is so trifling as scarcely to deserve mention, the hoppers being comparatively few in number and confined to patches here and there."—Worthington Advance, July 23, 1875.

¹²"There was really very little that the settlers could do to destroy or check the pests, although many schemes were tried. Nothing availed against the invading hordes, but in the case of the native hoppers the farmers waged a more or less successful war by the use of tar. "Hopperdozers," a sort of drag made of sheet iron and wood would be covered with tar and dragged over the ground. The young hoppers would be caught in the tar and destroyed. Another scheme was to pre-

vent prairie fires during the summer and fall, conserving the grass until the hoppers had hatched in the spring. Then on a given day the county would be burned over and the pests destroyed. Ditches would be dug and the hoppers driven into them and burned; scoop nets were used, but little headway could be made with them. In some of the counties bounties were paid for their capture. In seven such counties 58,019 bushels were captured, upon which bounties aggregating \$76,788.42 were paid; still no diminution was noticed in the damage done.

¹³"Reports from Rock county say that most of the hoppers have left and that the crops are but slightly injured."—Worthington Advance, July 30, 1875.

crops were well secured. But the anxieties of the season were not yet over. During the entire week beginning August 31 there was a continual downpour of rain, which did much damage to grain in stack and shock. That in the shock sprouted, and all was more or less damaged. Blight injured some of the wheat, and instead of grading No. 1, it was second and third grade.

The conditions during the winter of 1875-76 were so much better than they had been during the two preceding winters that very little relief was needed, and the county was able to supply its own seed for the next crop.

That there had been a marvelous increase in the population of Rock county during the two or three years of the decade before the grasshopper came is shown by the census returns for 1875. In spite of the fact that there had been little immigration since 1873¹⁴ and that a great many had moved away, there were found to be 1750 permanent residents in the county, an increase of about 1200 per cent in five years. By precincts, the population in 1875 was as follows:

Luverne (township and village).....	267
Beaver Creek	226
Vienna	121
Kanaranzi	152
Clinton	254
Martin	320
Magnolia	137
Springwater	110
Gregory ¹⁵	163
Total	1750

¹⁴In 1874 at least eighteen families, most of whom were from Winneshiek county, Iowa, settled in Martin and Beaver Creek townships.

¹⁵Included the present townships of Battle Plain, Rose Dell, Denver and Mound.

¹⁶Prior to the purchase of this building the county business had been conducted in various places. For some little time after the county was organized in 1870 the various officers had their offices at their respective homes, the office of the register of deeds being within one mile* of the Iowa line. For a time after the construction of the Wold & McKay store building in 1871 a desk for county officers was maintained there. Early in 1873 the upper room of the school house was fitted up and

Rock county came into possession of its first court house July 28, 1875, when it purchased from A. C. Croft for \$625 lot seven of block eleven with the building occupying that lot. In this little frame structure the officers conducted the county business until the present court house was erected in 1888.¹⁶

The year 1876 brought the building of Rock county's first railroad—an event of the greatest importance to the people whose nearest railway points theretofore had been Sibley and Worthington. The road, now a branch of the Omaha system, was completed to Luverne in the fall of 1876, to Beaver Creek in December, 1877, and to Sioux Falls the next spring.

The building of the railroad was brought about largely by the efforts of residents of Sioux Falls and vicinity. In the fall of 1875 several public meetings were held in that inland hamlet, the object of which was to secure the building of a road to Sioux Falls, either by local capital or by inducing the Sioux City & St. Paul railroad officials to construct a branch from some point on its main line. The point favored by the Sioux Falls boomers was Sibley or some other station in Iowa. The matter was taken up with President Drake, of the Sioux City & St. Paul road, who announced that his company was not at the time prepared to construct the line, but that he believed the proper place to unite with his road was

occupied for county offices for a short time. In October, 1873, the rear half of the J. F. Howard store building was rented and occupied nine months. Then for a year the front twenty feet of a building owned by S. J. Jenkins was rented for \$120 per year. In May, 1875, a committee consisting of J. H. Ferguson, E. D. Hadley and F. Howard was appointed by the county commissioners to prepare plans for a court house and submit the same to the commissioners. As a result of this action the building was purchased, as described in the text. In August, 1879, a brick vault was built on the court house square at a cost of \$575, and the court house was moved to the new location. In the spring of 1880 the county authorities took steps to beautify the grounds by setting out trees.

Worthington or the point where the railroad crossed the Iowa state line.¹⁷

The communication from President Drake was not satisfactory to the progressive people of Sioux Falls, for it promised no immediate action. They continued the agitation, determined to construct a road themselves if necessary, and an association was formed, composed mostly of people of Minnehaha county, Dakota territory. President Drake had given a hint as to the proper place from which to build, and late in December, 1875, the Dakota boomers met and designated Worthington as the eastern terminus of the proposed road. They made a preliminary survey from Sioux Falls to the Rock county line near Valley Springs and reported having located a favorable route. The Sioux Falls railroad committee urged the people of Rock and Nobles counties to unite with it in furthering the work.¹⁸

During the month of January, 1876, the Sioux City & St. Paul Railroad com-

pany decided to build the road. This action was taken because of the evident intention of the Southern Minnesota railroad to invade the territory.¹⁹ The decision was reached, ostensibly, through the efforts of the Minnehaha county committee, who visited the officers of the railroad company and secured from them the promise to build the road.²⁰ The railroad company asked that the three counties through which the road was to run vote bonds as a bonus.

The company was incorporated in March as the St. Paul & Dakota Railroad company²¹ by President E. F. Drake and his associates of the Sioux City & St. Paul. The capital stock was \$600,000, there being 6000 shares of \$100 each. As told in the incorporation act, the company proposed to build a branch road "from some point on the line of the Sioux City & St. Paul railroad, in Nobles county, state of Minnesota, to the west line of the state of Minnesota, in Rock county."

¹⁷St. Paul, October 28, 1875.

"Sir: Your favor of the twenty-first duly received. Absence has prevented an earlier reply. It seems to me your proper line of road is from Worthington, or a point on our road at the state line. The great product of your country is to be wheat, and our route to Lake Superior is always to be the best route for it. Had the west escaped grasshoppers we would have long since taken up this project, but our stockholders have sunk in operating our road about as much as would be required to build to Sioux Falls. Foreign aid cannot be had until the state of Iowa, by some act of her legislature, can assure investors that they will be free from unfriendly legislation. I think, as matters now stand, our preference will be to build from some point in Minnesota. While we are not ready to begin to build, and would desire (in case we do) the co-operation of Sioux Falls, still we are not losing sight of the importance of the proposed route and will give it every encouragement in our power. I am of the opinion that the road can only be built by local aid, liberally voted. It will not be in my power to be with you at your meeting, but whatever may be its result, and whatever route you may determine on, I shall wish you success. Your people are entitled to a road out in some direction, and when you develop your plans and determine what you wish to do, I shall be glad to have further correspondence.

"Yours,

"E. F. DRAKE, President."

¹⁸In a private letter, dated Valley Springs, December 27, 1875, M. S. Wood, chairman of the Sioux Falls committee, wrote: "Of course, it is idle for this [Minnehaha] county to attempt the enterprise unless the Nobles and Rock county people will unite with it. By solicitation of the committee appointed to for-

ward the project, I write to ascertain if we may expect prompt action on the part of your people. . . . I am confident that if Nobles and Rock counties will act with as much effect as our own people, and as promptly, we can before the next harvest show a line three-fourths of the entire distance graded and ready for the ties. Of course this can only be done by the most active work in organization and in subsequent prosecution of the work."

¹⁹The Southern Minnesota, a part of the Milwaukee system, which later built by way of Pipestone, was at this time preparing to extend its line westward from Winnebago City, through Nobles and Rock counties, and was asking bonuses from the various counties through which it was to pass.

²⁰"Editor Advance: Permit me through the medium of your very excellent paper to state to your people that as a result of a visit of the Minnehaha railroad committee we have the pleasure to state that our interview with the president and several of the directors of the Sioux City & St. Paul railroad was of a highly satisfactory character.

"Briefly, let me say that as a result we bring with us a written proposition bearing the signature of President Drake, which we regard as highly reasonable, and, we may say, liberal, which, by prompt acceptance and action on the part of Nobles, Rock and Minnehaha counties, promises to give us a railroad to Luverne in time to move the crops of this year, and final completion to Sioux Falls before the close of the year 1877.—M. S. Wood, Chairman."

²¹The name was changed to the Worthington & Sioux Falls Railroad company in July, 1876, and a few years later the road became a part of the Omaha system.



OLD ROCK COUNTY COURT HOUSE

The people shown in the picture from left to right are (bottom row): P. O. Skyberg, County Treasurer; Robert Cobban, County Commissioner; William Maynes, County Commissioner; Stewart Young, Auditor; Goodman Anderson, County Commissioner; John Kelley, Register of Deeds; (top row), Martin Webber, County Commissioner; J. O. Helgeson, Clerk of Court; Hattie Shoemaker, Clerk in Register's Office; Mary Gillam, Clerk in Auditor's Office; C. A. Reynolds, County Commissioner.

So soon as the Sioux City & St. Paul railroad interests decided to build the road they made known their wants. Rock county was asked to issue bonds to an amount of \$50,000 and the other counties to be traversed a proportionate amount. Generally, the people of Rock county were enthusiastically in favor of issuing the bonds, despite the fact that they were in the midst of the grasshopper scourge. On March 21, 1876, they presented a petition to the board of county commissioners, asking that body to call an election to vote on the proposition. The county board, consisting of C. A. Reynolds, P. J. Kniss and Niels Jacobson, took the requested action on that day and issued a call for a special election to be held April 11. At the election bonds were carried by a vote of 333 to 153, the result by precincts being as follows:

TOWNSHIPS	For Bonds	Against Bonds
Luverne	92	1
Clinton	26	32
Gregory	22	16
Martin	26	53
Beaver Creek	76	2
Springwater	24	4
Vienna	23	9
Magnolia	40	8
Kanaranzi	4	28
TOTAL.....	333	153

Bonds to the amount of \$12,750 were delivered to the railroad company, in accordance with the expressed wish of the voters and an agreement entered into be-

tween the county board and the railroad officials in April, 1876.²²

The work of constructing the new line was rapid. The preliminary survey was started west from Worthington March 31 and the permanent survey was made a few weeks later. Grading was begun in May and track-laying was commenced June 20.²³ The grade was completed to Rock river in August, and the track was completed to the same point late in September, the work having been delayed by heavy and continued rains. The first regular train was run over the line to Luverne October 2,²⁴ and a few days later the first shipment of goods was made over the new line. Luverne was the terminus of the road until late in the year 1877, when it was extended to Beaver Creek; the following spring the line was extended to Sioux Falls.

Despite the forebodings of disaster from another grasshopper visitation, the people of Rock county were in good spirits in the spring of 1876. Many obtained work with the construction crews on the railroad, and money was more plentiful than it had been for a number of years. In those portions of the county where eggs had been deposited the year before the hoppers hatched and late in May were up to their old tricks. They were, apparently, not so voracious as formerly, and very little damage was reported up to July 22. Then was repeated the experience of former years.

Vast clouds of the pests came out of

²²A state law at the time prohibited counties from issuing bonds to a greater amount than ten per cent of assessed valuation. The Rock county valuation in 1876 was only \$321,159. On the twenty-ninth day of April, 1876, the board of county commissioners entered into an agreement with the railroad company to issue bonds (when the work had reached a certain stage) in a sum equal to ten per cent of the assessed valuation for 1877, which amount, however, should not be more than \$50,000. The valuation that year was \$427,503, and bonds to the amount of \$42,750—three dollars less than the terms of the agreement called for—were issued. The first issue of \$24,400 was made July 1, 1876, and the second of \$18,350 on January 1, 1878.

²³"The trackmen commenced laying the iron rails from the junction near Worthington last Monday. Several miles have been completed and the work is being pushed along with the same degree of energy that has characterized the undertaking from its inception."—Rock County Herald, June 24, 1876.

²⁴The train consisted of one coach and a caboose and carried a party of visiting railroad officials. Peter Becker was conductor; Frank Swandollar, engineer; Matt Dulan, fireman. John McMillan was roadmaster in charge of the branch line when it began operations.

the northwest on the twenty-second and attacked the growing fields with their old-time vigor. The country was invaded again! The grasshoppers extended from Martin county, Minnesota, to Yankton, Dakota territory, and from Sibley, Iowa, to an indefinite distance to the north. They remained in Rock county in great numbers until the last of July, and it was August before all had disappeared. During this period they feasted continually and deposited their eggs. Oats, barley, corn, vegetables, and all crops except wheat were badly damaged;²⁵ wheat, by some strange turn of fate, was only a partial loss. That ultra-conservative chronicler of the grasshopper scourge, the Rock County Herald, on July 29, 1876, told of the damage:

We've had 'em, it is true, in large numbers, and considerable damage has been inflicted upon the crops in various localities, yet if we escape further injury, Rock county will produce a surplus of small grain in excess of that of 1875.

Gardens and young trees have suffered severely by the visitation of our old enemy and corn fields in some localities have been stripped, while in others an abundant yield is promised. Oats are damaged on an average, perhaps, to an extent of one-third of the crop, while the wheat crop, which is the main reliance of our people, has so far escaped with comparatively little damage. From the most reliable reports from all parts of the county, and from the statements of competent judges, we should say that if wheat escapes further injury it will not fall below three-fourths of a full crop.

If the reports of various newspapers can be relied upon, we may congratulate ourselves on having escaped with so little damage. If no further accident befalls the crop, which is nearly ready for the harvest, Rock county will have "bread and to spare." Our people, with very few exceptions, are hopeful of the future and confident of their ability to cope successfully with their winged adversaries. They are not yet disposed to abandon pleasant homes to the piratical insects.

Again on August 5 the same journal said:

²⁵A Luyerne citizen, on July 25, 1876, wrote: "There never was a better prospect for an abundant crop than there was here until a few days ago, . . . but our brilliant pros-

The crops of this county will average with those of the state at large. It is true, the hoppers were here in countless numbers and worked injury to a considerable portion of the crops, but it is the opinion of competent judges throughout the county that we will harvest a two-thirds crop and have a greater surplus of small grain than ever before.

There was no disguising the fact that Rock county had met another damaging setback. Many who had fought the scourge so long gave up and quit trying to raise crops; some left the county. The prospects were, indeed, discouraging. The grasshoppers had again deposited their eggs, and there seemed little prospect that the country would ever be free from them. Many did not give up, however, but determined to fight to a successful end or meet utter failure in the attempt. The result of the invasion of 1876 was a change in tactics. Instead of staking all on grain farming, many now turned to stockraising. To discuss means of contending with the common enemy, delegates from all the devastated counties of southwestern Minnesota met in convention at Worthington on September 20, 1876. Methods of fighting the pests were discussed and plans made for reducing the ravages. Relief from the United States government was asked.

The legislature of 1877 took measures to relieve suffering in the devastated counties. One hundred thousand dollars was appropriated to be used in bounties to pay for the destruction of grasshoppers and their eggs, \$15,000 to furnish seed grain, and another sum for a common relief fund. Early in April Rock county's share of the seed grain was distributed. As proof that something besides grasshoppers had been raised in Rock county in 1876, all the grain granted to Rock county applicants was purchased within the

peets are blighted, our hopes are gone. I never saw so sudden a change from cheerful prosperity to sad adversity."

county, the prices paid being \$1.25 per bushel for wheat and fifty-three cents for barley.

Nothing else having been availed to rid the state of the locusts, Governor John S. Pillsbury named a day for fasting and prayer, and by proclamation requested every citizen to observe Thursday, April 26, 1877, as a day on which to hold religious meetings and ask for deliverance from the scourge.

The annual dread of grasshopper visitation was again felt in the spring and summer of 1877—and this time the settlers were agreeably disappointed. The season was admirably adapted to two ends: the best possible development of small grain, and the worst possible development of the locusts. The cool, rainy weather of the spring and early summer seemed to have been sent on purpose to give wheat and other small grain a rapid and healthy growth, and at the same time give the grasshoppers a slow and feeble development. After the young grasshoppers hatched, here and there a field was somewhat damaged by them, but the people knew that unless raided again by the invading hordes there could not be universal destruction. And the invaders did not come.

Contributing largely to the unexpected good fortune was a little red parasite,

which attacked and destroyed the grasshopper eggs in their nests in the fall²⁶ and early spring months. Later the parasites attacked the young hoppers, loading down their frail wings and carcasses until it was almost impossible for them to fly. Bushels of the pests died before they developed sufficiently to do damage.²⁷

Early in May a few grasshoppers hatched on the sunny slopes, but in such small numbers that the parasites made away with them before any damage was done. Later in the month there was a more general hatch. On a few farms they were in sufficient numbers to do some damage, especially in Magnolia township, but practically the loss was nil. Cool weather continued until the middle of June, having the effect of keeping the hoppers quiet and off the fields. In some localities the pests were reported dying in considerable numbers. In the latter part of June the hoppers became more active and in a few localities went to work with something of their old-time vigor. During the latter part of July and the first part of August grasshoppers were constantly on the wing, driven about by brisk winds. Only occasionally did they settle long enough to attack the grain fields. While they continued a menace during the entire season, the actual damage done was little.²⁸

²⁶"While here last week, Captain Blakeley made a most searching examination of his vast area of breaking to discover the presence of grasshopper eggs. The result convinced the gentleman that very few sound cocoons remain, and he considers the prospects of a good crop next season as favorable, barring invasion by flying hordes of the pestiferous insects."—Rock County Herald, October 21, 1876.

²⁷"In many localities throughout the district infested with grasshopper eggs, there is a small, red bug, whose special mission seems to be to destroy the larvae of the grasshopper, and most encouraging reports are current respecting the destructive habits of the strange insects. In certain localities in our own county where the ground was known to be thickly peppered with eggs, scarcely any have escaped the vigilant search of these industrious parasites. A shovelful of earth is frequently found to contain as many as fifty insects, all running hither and thither and delving in the loose soil in search of what appears to be coveted tidbits, the eggs of the locusts. We have been shown

a quantity of earth taken from the farm of Commissioner Reynolds, in Springwater, which at the time of removal contained at least a score of the insects and a number of cocoons or sacks of grasshopper eggs. In two days from the date of digging, the red parasites remained, but not a single egg could be found, only a few dry particles which a day before had constituted the covering of our worst enemy. At the present rate of destruction, if the weather continues cool and wet, ten days will suffice to rid the earth of a host of embryo grasshoppers and insure a steady growth of grain where it was thought a waste of time and seed to sow. If it should prove that these tiny insects are capable of exterminating an enemy whose ravages man has hitherto been powerless to stay, the little scarlet-coated fellows will be regarded with a feeling akin to reverence."—Rock County Herald, April 27, 1877.

²⁸"Grasshoppers have been flying every day this week, sometimes in one direction, again taking the opposite course, according to the direction of the wind. Some have taken the

Encouraged by the assistance given by the parasites, the farmers attacked the pests with all known modes of warfare. Under the supervision of a "superintendent of burning prairie grass" the prairies (the dead grass having been conserved until this time) of a large portion of the county were burned on Wednesday, May 16.²⁹ Some did not apply the torch on the date set, preferring to wait until warm weather should bring forth more of the insects, but many were destroyed in this manner. "Hopperdozers" were put in general use in the spring, and a relentless war was waged.

As the season advanced it became evident that if the ravages of the grasshoppers could be held in check, Rock county would produce an enormous crop. By the middle of August the harvest was completed, and the first crop in years had been saved.³⁰ The yield of the three principal cereals in 1877 was as follows: Wheat, 259,597 bushels, average, 15.81 per acre; oats, 91,904 bushels, average, 36.97 per acre; corn, 41,366 bushels, average, 16.77 per acre. It was a time of

trouble to alight for rest and refreshments, but so far we have not heard of any damage to crops worth mentioning. The fear of a visitation, however, will continue to harass the farmer until the harvest is over."—Rock County Herald, August 3, 1877.

²⁹"All persons who own, occupy or oversee any lands in Rock county upon which any grass of last year's growth remains are hereby ordered to burn the same on the sixteenth day of May, 1877, or, if on account of rain on that or the previous day the grass shall be wet, as soon thereafter as the same shall become sufficiently dry. Please set the grass on fire early in the morning, around the fields of grain before the young hoppers go from the grass to the grain to feed. In this way nearly all the pests will be destroyed and will, I trust, obviate the necessity of spending any more time during the season for that purpose."—Ira Crawford, Superintendent of Burning of Prairie Grass.

³⁰"... Now it has been demonstrated that excellent crops can be grown along with millions of grasshoppers, these pests will cease to be a constant terror, capital will flow in, our cheap lands will find occupants, our county will enter upon a new era of prosperity, and the past with its bitter lessons and unpleasant memories will be forgotten in the new prosperous present."—Rock County Herald, August 10, 1877.

³¹"These are the days when the wily granger, inspired by a desire to get in first at the elevator, cunningly gets up at 2:35 a. m. and

jubilee. Every resident seemed imbued with new life. When the golden grain came pouring in, business men began increasing their stocks; farmers began improving their farms and getting their lands in readiness for next year's crop.

Luverne, being the terminus of the railroad, was the center of activity during the grain marketing period and the distributing point for a mammoth territory. Grain was hauled from points only a few miles from Yankton, Dakota territory, and from long distances to the north and south. The grain haulers invariably took back loads of lumber and provisions. The one elevator at Luverne was, of course, unable to properly handle the grain that poured in and much confusion resulted.³¹ During the season 388,379 bushels of wheat alone were marketed in Luverne, which was sold at an average price of eighty cents per bushel. This distributed cash to the amount of \$310,703, a great part of which was expended for lumber and implements with which to develop the country.

For the first time since the coming of

slips into town to find himself the eighty-fourth removed from the hopper. . . . One hundred impatient teamsters in charge of as many loaded wagons remained over Thursday night to take their places, in regular order, in the endless procession of wheat-laden vehicles waiting to discharge their cargoes at the elevator."—Rock County Herald, November 2, 1877.

"Our distant readers can have but faint conception of the vast amount of wheat handled at this point; indeed, it seems a wonder to those best acquainted with the country where all these processions of grain-laden wagons come from. On Monday evening of this week, after a hard day's work by the elevator men, there remained by actual count no less than 170 loads of wheat to be disposed of, and by sunrise next morning this number had been augmented by new arrivals to upwards of 200. Of course, this amount of grain is far beyond the capacity of the elevator to properly handle, and scores of impatient men were compelled to remain here two nights waiting their turn to unload. So great has been the rush at the elevator that, notwithstanding its running time was increased to thirteen hours per day last week, a string of 100 to 150 teams has been constantly in waiting since that time, and in order to relieve the pressure the officers of the company have employed an extra set of men, who arrived on the morning's train, and hereafter the elevator will be operated night and day, and we are authorized to say that henceforth grain brought to this market will be promptly unloaded."—Herald, November 16, 1877.

the grasshoppers, immigrants arrived in Rock county in 1877. This was caused to a great extent by the building of the railroad. Pinching hard times in the older states and the opportunity to secure cheap lands in proximity to market in fertile Rock county added to the cause of their coming. Even during the summer season, when the grasshoppers were threatening the destruction of crops, several arrived and selected homes. When it became evident that the crop was safe and that Rock county could produce something besides grasshoppers, the immigrants poured in and located in all parts of the county.³² These came prepared to build on their lands, and the lumber dealers were unable to replace their stocks

³²"Land seekers continue to arrive on every train, and hardly a day passes without inquiry for cheap lands. Day by day it becomes more apparent that we are on the threshold of better times, and that an era of prosperity is beginning to dawn upon those who have possessed the pluck to stick to their farms."—Rock County Herald, September 7, 1877.

³³Of the three hundred odd thousand acres of land in Rock county, over one hundred thousand acres—nearly one-third of the total area—were granted to railroad companies. Of this amount, 16,228 acres were granted to the Southern Minnesota (Milwaukee) railroad and 84,170 acres to the Sioux City & St. Paul (Omaha) road.

The history of the grant of Rock county lands, which were many miles from the railroad, to the latter company is compiled from the records of the general land office and other records.

In 1857 congress passed an act granting to the territory of Minnesota, for the purpose of aiding in the construction of certain railways, and among them a railroad from St. Paul and St. Anthony to the southern boundary of the territory in the direction of the mouth of the Big Sioux river, every alternate section of land designated by odd numbers for six sections of width on each side of such railroads and their branches. The act also provided that in case any of the lands so granted had been already settled upon, the railroads should select other unoccupied lands in lieu thereof, but that such indemnifying lands should not be more than fifteen miles from the line of such road. Subsequently, by act of May 12, 1864, for the purpose of giving aid to this particular road, congress granted to the state of Minnesota four additional sections per mile along the line of said road and extended the indemnity limits to twenty miles.

The company originally organized to build the road in question was known as the Minnesota Valley Railroad company. This company located its line of road so far as the northeast corner of Nobles county by Novem-

ber, 1858, and the remainder of the line to the southern boundary of the state was located in 1866. The right of the railroad to the lands attached when the line was located, and under the provisions of the law the lands were to be conveyed by the state to the company as fast as every twenty miles of road were built.

Meanwhile, the Sioux City & St. Paul Railroad company of Iowa had been organized. The company had its own land grant in Iowa and was organized for the purpose of connecting with the Minnesota Valley railroad, thus forming a continuous line from St. Paul to Sioux City. The company was virtually the same as the Minnesota Valley company, and in order to equalize the length of the road to be built by each company, steps were taken to consolidate, and to make the Sioux City & St. Paul company a Minnesota corporation. This was done by an act of the legislature in 1869, by which, also, the Minnesota Valley company was authorized to transfer to the Sioux City & St. Paul company so much of its line and land grant as it might deem proper. In accordance with this act, in 1872, the Minnesota Valley company (which, by the way, by an act of the legislature, approved March 1, 1870, had changed its name to the St. Paul & Sioux City Railroad company) transferred its line and land grant lying west of St. James to the Sioux City & St. Paul Railroad company, and the road from St. James to the state line was built and owned by the last named corporation. Following the provisions of the law regulating land grants, the state of Minnesota, to whom all the lands lying along the located line of the railroad had been certified by the United States, transferred the lands to the railroad company as fast as the road was built.

A part of Rock county lying within the indemnity limit, the odd numbered sections of a great part of the county became the property of the railroad company when the line was constructed in 1871. This is the chain of title to these lands. The lands were virtually deeded by the United States to the territory and state of Minnesota, and by the state of Minnesota to the railroad company.

CHAPTER VI.

RECONSTRUCTION PERIOD—1878-1884.

HENCEFORTH the story of Rock county is one of advancement. The dark and gloomy days are past. No longer do the grasshoppers threaten the very existence of the settlement; no longer is it found necessary to solicit aid for the relief of the inhabitants. The days of such adversity have become only a memory. It must not be understood that this change was wrought in a day, for it was not. Trials and tribulations were yet to assail those who had borne so much and so long, but times were on the mend, and the year 1878 ushered in the reconstruction era. People began anew the work of progress that had been interrupted when the first army of grasshoppers came and placed a mortgage on the country in the summer of 1873.

In some ways the people of Rock county were in better condition than they had been before the scourge. Most of those who had filed upon government land in the early seventies now had title to their homes—and land began to have a value. A few had not met with great losses during the terrible scourge and were al-

ready in position to begin the forward march. Many others, however, found it necessary to free themselves from debt before the effect of the more prosperous times became apparent.

The abundant crop harvested in 1877 and the belief that the grasshopper days were a thing of the past were elements that aided largely in the start for better times. To all parts of southwestern Minnesota and southeastern Dakota, but particularly to Rock county and the Sioux Falls country, the settlers flocked in the spring of 1878. Before the wagon roads became passable the settlers came by train, the great rush of homeseekers beginning during the closing days of February.¹ About the middle of April the immigrants began to arrive in the well-remembered (to the pioneer settlers) "prairie schooners," or canvass-covered wagons, and these continued to arrive in great and undiminished numbers until about the first of June. Twenty, forty, sixty, per day they came, in many cases accompanied by droves of cattle, horses and sheep, household goods and farming implements. Not all of these stopped in Rock county, but

¹Over eighty passengers, the greater number of whom were in search of homes, arrived in Luyerne by rail February 27. The same class of people to the number of 112 arrived March 19, and on the following day homeseekers filled the one coach the train afforded.

the baggage car, the platforms, and the tops of the freight cars. All were men in search of land or business locations. The hotels were filled to overflowing, and livery teams were worked to skeletons taking the newcomers over the country to pick out the choice locations.

a great many did.² During the summer months the immigrants arrived in diminished numbers, but in the fall the homeseekers again became quite numerous.

As a general thing the newcomers were a well-to-do class. They came, not to take homesteads, but to purchase land and make improvements. Owing to the removal of so many settlers during the grasshopper years, there was much land on the market at reasonable prices, and all were given opportunity to become permanent settlers. That the arrivals in the spring of 1878 came for the purpose of making homes is attested by the real estate sales during that period. Between the first day of April and the tenth of May the real estate transfers amounted to over a quarter of a million dollars. The transfers by deed covered 24,935 acres, the aggregate consideration of which was \$139,829, or about \$5.67 per acre. The 16,760 acres of school lands in the county were offered for sale on May 7, and 8941 were sold for \$67,799.11, or an average of \$7.58 per acre. With the other sales the total for this short period was over \$250,000. Other statistics show progress. The gross earnings of the new railroad for the first six months of the year were \$44,317.85, as against \$6767.56 for the corresponding period in 1877. At the Luverne station for one week ending May 31 there were received 1,747,150 pounds of freight.

To make improvements on their newly acquired farms, the immigrants swamped the local lumber dealers with orders. Day after day lumber-laden wagon trains could be seen wending their way across

the prairies to the new-found homes. The implement dealers also reaped a harvest supplying machinery, one Luverne dealer reporting the sale during the spring months of over one hundred harvesters and sixty self-binders.

The acreage sown to the principal crops in 1878 was as follows: Wheat, 25,434 acres; oats, 4721 acres; corn, 2095 acres. Although the grasshoppers in diminished numbers visited Nobles county and some other portions of southwestern Minnesota in 1878, Rock county was free from them. But the county was not destined to harvest the mammoth crop to which it was entitled. Two weeks of excessively hot weather in the first half of July, followed by a week of excessive rains, injured the wheat crop. The damage was estimated at from fifteen to forty per cent, according to locality. When the grain was threshed it proved of poor quality and graded numbers three and four.

The railroad was extended from Beaver Creek to Sioux Falls in this year of big immigration. Grading for the extension was begun in March and track-laying was commenced May 1. Trains were put in operation to Valley Springs during the closing days of May, and regular train service was established to Sioux Falls August 21.

Rock county's second railroad, the Doon branch of the Omaha, was built in 1879. The survey for the road was made during the month of April, and the grading contract for the entire distance was let to Kniss & Brown, of Luverne, May 16. Ex-Gov. Stephen Miller at once began the purchase of right-of-way, the grade stakes

²Here are a few figures showing the arrivals in Luverne during a part of this period, only the covered wagons having been counted: Monday (April 29), 18; Tuesday, 12; Wednesday, 23; Thursday, 35; Friday, 25. From May 4 to 17, inclusive, 238 "schooners" arrived at the port of Luverne, which number did not include scores of open wagons which were arriving for the same purpose. On Monday, May 19, between sun and sun, sixty-one of the white-sailed vessels passed through Luverne, and be-

fore the week was over more than 200 had passed through. A Beaver Creek citizen, writing early in May, said: "It has been a source of wonder to us, as we have watched the thousands of strangers passing through our village, where in the world they all come from. No less than 300 'schooners' have passed through here enroute 'to different parts of Rock and Minnehaha counties. And it is a notable fact that most of them come to stay, bringing with them their families and farming implements."

were set, and on May 28 grading was begun from the Laverne end, the contract having been sublet by Messrs. Kniss & Brown to farmers along the new line. Track-laying was started July 30 and the line was completed to Rock Rapids about the first of October.³ Early in November the railroad reached Doon, the terminus, and the first regular train over the new line was run November 10.

In portions of Rock county grasshoppers did some little damage in 1879, being confined to new breaking which was not back-set the fall before. The damage done was by native hoppers, and there was no invasion. About the middle of July they departed, never to appear again; grasshoppers had eaten their last Rock county grain. The fact that they put in an appearance had a tendency to put a damper on the immigration, which otherwise would have resulted. Said the Rock County Herald of November 28, 1879: "The reports so extensively circulated and exaggerated in proportion to the extent of their wide-spread circulation, respecting the grasshopper scourge in this section, have unquestionably injured this county to an immeasurable extent."

Early in the season prospects for a big crop were flattering. Over 52,000 acres were sown,⁴ and fine weather in the spring months promised a bountiful harvest. But, while grasshoppers and storms brought little damage, the crop was light. Wheat was blighted, and the average yield was less than ten bushels per acre; corn, oats and flax did better. The local paper told of resultant conditions: "The times at present, owing to the failure of crops for two years past, are hard, it is true,

but the drawbacks of the past two years are not of a local character or in any respect peculiar to this locality." In Martin township particularly the settlers were hard hit. In addition to the other calamities of the season, a destructive hail storm, about half a mile in width, visited that township and brought great damage. Martin township in 1879 harvested the lightest crop in its history.

Rock county harvested an excellent crop in 1880, as did all portions of southwestern Minnesota, and more No. 1 wheat was raised than had ever been the case before. The county again became known as the "Land of Promise." Said the Rock County Herald on August 6:

The memory of the oldest inhabitant recalls no time in the history of the county when the growth of all kinds of grain was greater, the probable yield larger or the quality better. Wheat, with scarcely an acre throughout the county to break the uniform excellence, stands breast high, and heads are well filled to the top with large plump berries that will certainly be graded No. 1. Flax, of which the acreage is large, is equally good, and corn as a rule is literally enormous. For once Rock county has escaped the scourges that have heretofore beset it and its incomparable, fertile soil has had an opportunity to give evidence of its productiveness.

The acreage sown, the estimated yield in bushels and the average yield per acre of the several crops were as follows:

GRAIN	Acres	Bushels	Average
Wheat.....	32,355	582,290	18
Oats.....	9,843	295,290	30
Corn.....	8,849	440,950	50
Flax.....	6,509	97,653	15
Barley.....	1,507	45,210	30
Rye.....	1,288	15,216	12
Buckwheat.....	18		
Potatoes.....	295		
Beans.....	24		
Sugar Cane.....	73		
Other Products.....	60		
TOTAL	60,480		

³"A party of our citizens availed themselves of an opportunity to take a ride to Rock Rapids over the new road Saturday morning [October 4] and enjoyed the trip amazingly. The party consisted of M. McCarthy, his wife and his daughter Maggie; Mrs. Klein and children; Miss Della Kimball and Will Langdon. The ladies above named may take to themselves whatever distinction lies in the fact that they

are the first ladies who ever rode over the Iowa division of the Worthington & Sioux Falls railway."—Rock County Herald, October 10, 1879.

⁴The acreage was as follows: Wheat, 35,951; oats, 7484; corn, 4806; barley, 1545; rye, 554; potatoes, 215; beans, 7; sugar cane, 13; tame hay, 320; flax 1399; total, 52,294.

The farmers were not to realize to the fullest extent the fruits of the bountiful harvest. Frequent and heavy rains in August made it impossible to finish stacking until about the middle of September, and threshing had hardly commenced before the memorable winter set in, preventing further operations. The next spring weather conditions were no better, and a large part of the 1880 crop had not been threshed on July 1, 1881. It was impossible to market the grain that had been threshed because of the impassable roads and the railroad blockade.

The federal census of 1880 gave Rock county a population of 3669,⁵ of which 2654 were native born, and 1015 of foreign birth. This was a gain of over one hundred per cent in five years and of nearly 2700 per cent over the federal census of 1870. By precincts the population of the county in 1880 was as follows:

Battle Plain	142
Beaver Creek	483
Clinton	237
Denver	104
Kanaranzi	192
Luverne Township	221
Luverne Village	679
Magnolia	240
Martin	545
Mound	244
Rose Dell	196
Springwater	198
Vienna	188

Total 3669

One of the dates from which time is reckoned in Rock county is the winter of 1880-81--the season of Siberian frigid-ity. There have been worse storms than any that occurred that winter; for short periods of time there has been colder weather. But there never was a winter to compare with this one in duration, continued severity, depth of snow, and damage to property. Blizzard followed blizzard. The railroads were blockaded for weeks at a time. Fuel and food were

nearly exhausted. People burned hay and grain and went without lights. In some places there was suffering for lack of food. Roads remained unbroken all winter and the farmers obtained their supplies from the villages by means of hand-sleds. The long, cold, boisterous, bliz-zardous, wearisome winter will never be forgotten by those who were then living in Rock county.

Before the farmers had fairly started their fall work, while the grass was yet green and the insect world active, winter set in. Toward evening on Friday, Oc-tober 15, the wind, which had been blow-ing from the north all day, brought with it an occasional flake of snow. When dark-ness came the wind and snow increased, and before midnight the elements were thoroughly aroused. Throughout the night the storm steadily increased, and when morning came its fury was such as had been seldom witnessed in the middle of the severest winters. Saturday fore-noon the wind continued to blow with ter-rific violence, driving before it the rapidly falling snow with such force that few dar-ed to venture out of doors. All day the blizzard raged, not calming down until after nightfall. Saturday night the rag-ing elements ceased their tempestuous frolic. Sunday the weather was calm, but cold and wintry. The fall of snow was great and the violent winds piled it in great mounds. The streets of Luverne and Beaver Creek were packed full, the banks in many places on the north side rising almost level with the second story windows and completely covering from sight some of the smaller buildings. The business houses in both villages were for the most part closed and the towns re-sembled Icelandic hamlets. The snow which fell in this initial storm did not

⁵Population of other southwestern Minnesota counties: Pipestone, 2092; Nobles, 4435; Mur-ray, 3669; Jackson, 4795; Cottonwood, 5554.

entirely disappear until the following May.

So badly drifted was the snow that the railroads were completely blockaded, and from the night of Friday, the fifteenth, until the night of Tuesday, the nineteenth, no trains were able to get through, although large forces of men were at work clearing the track. In the country damage because of the storm was great. It was the first and only blizzard experienced in the county in October, and, of course, the farmers were unprepared for it. The loss of stock throughout the county was considerable, many hogs and sheep, particularly, having been frozen to death.

For a short time after the initial storm the weather was calm but wintry. About the middle of November storms began to rage again, and wintry blasts continued from that time until late in April. For weeks at a time the people of Rock county were absolutely isolated. They spent long weeks of weary waiting in the midst of the dreariest, gloomiest and most dismally discouraging surroundings—waiting for the raising of the blockade and the arrival of the necessities of life, of which they were deprived. Because of the fuel and provision famine which ensued there was considerable suffering in parts of the county. Severe cold weather began on November 19, and the following day the thermometer registered nineteen degrees below zero. Because of the inability of the railway company to provide a sufficient number of cars, a fuel famine resulted during the latter part of November, leaving the people illy supplied with the necessary article even before the railroad blockade began.

"Although the freight blockade continues to prevent the shipment of grain, large quantities of wheat are daily brought to Luverne and stowed away under every available shelter. Every warehouse in the village is filled, all the bins in the elevator are full, and large quantities of wheat are stored away in sacks on the ground floor."—Rock County Herald, December 24, 1880.

Following is the story of the winter, told in brief chronological order, from the beginning of December until the breakup in the spring:

DECEMBER.

1. Wood and hard coal again on the market, and fuel famine lifted, except soft coal.
4. Snow falling, with wind. Main line of the Omaha road blockaded.
5. Cold, windy and snow falling.
6. Thermometer indicated twenty-seven degrees below zero.
7. Windy, with snow squalls.
10. Car famine and shortage of soft coal reported.
13. Light rain during the afternoon.
17. Snow fell most of the day.
24. Light fall of snow. Grain piling up in Luverne because of the freight blockade.
25. Windy and light snowfall. Last mail from the east until the thirtieth, due to snow blockade on main line of the Omaha.
26. Blizzard. Mercury forty degrees below zero.
27. Blizzard. Thirty-four below zero.
28. Blizzard with furious gale from the north. Thirty-two below zero.
29. Cold and stormy.
30. Rise in temperature. First mail in several days received from Worthington. Main line still closed.
31. Total number of stormy days in December, 11.

JANUARY.

1. Wind changed to northwest. Snow at night.
4. Mild weather. Fine sleet fell at night.
5. Stormy. Snow drifting badly.
6. Blizzard. Weather cold.
7. Freight blockade reported disastrous.
9. Thermometer registered forty degrees below zero, where the mercury congealed and refused to register severer cold. Coldest day of the winter. Air still.
12. Blizzard with snow in the afternoon. Weather mild.
13. Blizzard continued. Twenty degrees below zero. Train stuck in drifts at Beaver Creek.
20. Storm from the north. No trains over the Worthington & Sioux Falls until the twenty-fourth.
21. Blizzard raging.
22. Still storming.
23. Mild. Light snowfall.
25. Cold. Snow drifting.

"The circumstances under which the people of Luverne and surrounding country have been for a long time and are at the present time placed, in consequence of the freight blockade, the stagnation of business, the low price of produce and the impossibility of finding a market for grain occasioned thereby, are very unfortunate."—Rock County Herald, January 7, 1881.

26. Blizzard from the north. No train until following day.

27. Few empty freight cars received, and the elevator, after having been idle since December 20, resumed operations.

28. Snow falling. Mild weather.

30. Heavy snow storm at night.

31. Heavy fall of snow, accompanied by north wind. No train until next afternoon. Total number of stormy days in January, 15.

FEBRUARY.

1. Last mail from the east until February 13 received. Main line of the Omaha tied up.

2. Boisterous storm. Snow falling. Last train over the branch until February 18. Line completely snowed under.

4. Blizzard from the southeast. Heavy snowfall all day.

5. Blizzard. Few hours interruption and then began with increased fury.

6. Blizzard continued.

7. Blizzard until afternoon. Then rainfall with mercury forty-eight above zero. South wind.

8. Doon branch cleared of snow.

10. Main line of the Omaha opened. After several days work the branch road nearly opened, expecting trains to begin operations on the twelfth. Plenty of fuel reported at Luverne.

11. One of the worst blizzards of the season began, coming from the north. Railroad again covered.

12. Blizzard all day.

14. Cold, with light snowfall.

*"After a lapse of over two weeks without mail, the re-establishment of communication with the east will be hailed with the greatest rejoicing by the people along the line. Fortunately, thus far there has been but little, if any, suffering for want of fuel or provisions, but this state of affairs could not have continued much longer without supplies."—Herald, February 18, 1881.

*"The entire line is even more effectually blockaded than at any time before this winter. Almost every day the engines with crews of men have been at work at the east end attempting to clear the track, but every night the wind would fill up all the excavations and the work accomplished one day would have to be begun again on the next. It is evident now that no regular trains can be expected until the snow is entirely gone, and it is even possible that the road will not be opened at all until that time."—Herald, March 4, 1881.

10"Since the first day of February one freight train has passed over the Worthington & Sioux Falls branch and only one mail has been received. During this time no wood has been brought in and only three carloads of coal have been received at this point. The first three weeks of the blockade occasioned no particular inconvenience in the matter of fuel and provisions and the ensuing two weeks have occasioned no suffering. At the present time, however, fuel is becoming exceedingly scarce and merchants are running short of staple provisions. Fuel dealers have been without hard coal since the first of February and their supply of wood was exhausted three weeks ago. The condition of affairs at the present time is bad enough, but the worst is yet to come.

17. Little snow in forenoon. Railroad uncovered.

18. Blockade lifted. First train over the branch arrived late at night, bringing eighteen days' mail.⁹

19. Light snow. Main line again blockaded. Last train over the Doon branch until May 20.

20. Train gets through from Luverne to Worthington.

21. Freight and passenger trains ran over the branch road on time.

22. Hard snow storm. No train.

23. Train from Sioux Falls to Worthington, where it remained snow bound. Long blockade begun.⁹

24. Snow and south wind.

25. Blizzard from the south.

26. Blizzard from the northwest.

28. Total number of stormy days in February, 14.

MARCH.

1. Mild weather, lasting two days. Fuel scarce.¹⁰ Car load of wood consigned to Luverne seized at Worthington. Railroad company authorized Luverne agent to sell railroad coal.¹¹

3. Railroad's coal stolen.¹²

4. Fierce blizzard all day. Last car of railroad coal sold.

5. Beginning five days of mild weather.

6. Luverne churches hold union services to economize on fuel.

10. Main line opened except small strip. Shovelers working on branch road, expecting line open on the twelfth.¹⁴

From the present outlook there is no reason to hope for fresh supplies for at least two weeks and it is even predicted by some that no freight will be brought in during the month of March. The situation is by no means pleasant to contemplate. Many people in the village will be reduced soon to the extremity of using flax straw for fuel. Mr. Ghar Aahenson offers to furnish fuel of this kind for the price of hauling one dollar per load." Herald, March 4, 1881.

10"Station Agent C. W. Held has received instructions from the railroad company to dispose of a quantity of coal left at this point last week for the use of the company. The coal is to be sold to the dealers at the invoice price to the company on condition that no dealer shall sell more than 250 pounds to one person nor charge therefor more than one dollar."—Herald, March 4, 1881.

12"On Thursday night of last week [March 3] nearly four tons of coal were stolen from the railroad company's bin. What was left in the bin was removed by Station Agent Held to the elevator and depot and sold. It was not the intention of the company to sell this part of its stock, but the agent prudently deemed it better to sell it than to have it stolen."—Herald, March 11, 1881.

12"Another snow storm, just as the roads have been nearly opened at enormous expense and the people have begun to look forward with confidence to a speedy release from their six weeks' bondage, would be an affliction on the part of the weather almost too cruel for endurance." Herald, March 11 1881.

11. Blizzard from the east.
12. Fierce blizzard. Heaviest snowfall of the season. All railroads buried.
13. Fair weather.
14. Severe blizzard, beginning at noon.
15. Shovelers again attack drifts.
17. Snow drifting.
18. Worthington mail brought in overland. Fuel famine serious.¹⁴
24. Snow drifting and undoing work of shovelers.
25. Sugar supply at Luverne exhausted; other supplies short.¹⁵
28. Main line clear between Sioux City and Worthington.
30. Main line open east of Worthington and first train from east in six weeks (lacking two days) reached Worthington. Branch line not open.
31. Snow storm. Main line again closed.

¹⁴"Seven weeks shut out from communication with the outside world; four weeks without mail or any information concerning the goings-on outside our own county; short of provisions and almost destitute of coal, besieged on every hand by the accumulations of snow piled up by almost innumerable blizzards; harassed and discomfited in almost every conceivable way by the omnipresent, interminable snow, with no more cheerful source of comfort for the immediate future than the certainty of a long continuance of the same unpleasant circumstances; this, in brief, is the unenviable state of affairs in Luverne and the country contiguous.

"The outlook was rendered still more uninviting [by last week's blizzard]. Few had more than two or three days' supply of fuel, many were still less fortunate, and others were even then reduced to the necessity of burning corn or flax straw. Tuesday Dr. Cullen turned over to some who were destitute of fuel what wood he had at the elevator, but this, of course, supplied only a few and afforded them but temporary relief. The scarcity of corn, owing to the fact that most of the crop still remains in the field, makes it necessary to rely chiefly for future supplies of fuel upon the timber along the river. Considerable quantities of this have been already cut and brought to the village.

"Notwithstanding the discomfort above mentioned, Luverne is unquestionably more fortunate than most of the neighboring towns. By reason of the large stock of wood and coal our dealers had on hand at the time the blockade began, we have been able to pass through a period of seven weeks without further supplies, and up to the present time, so far as we can learn, all have been able to obtain fuel sufficient for their immediate wants. In some parts of the county it is more than probable that great hardships have been endured. Many farmers have depended solely upon hay and flax straw for fuel. Others have found it necessary to tear down and burn portions of their out-buildings. In some instances farmers have been unable to get to mill and have manufactured their own flour by grinding wheat in coffee mills. How much worse may be the condition of affairs in districts more remote from town remains to be learned."—Herald, March 18, 1881.

¹⁵"During this memorable winter Niels Jacobson invented, manufactured and operated a feed mill of native stone, which proved to be of great benefit to the settlers of southwestern Rock county. The roads being impassable, the neighbors would bring sacks of wheat on their backs to be ground into feed for themselves and their stock. On grinding days the neighbors, traveling on snowshoes, would gather at Mr. Jacobson's farm and all assist in shovel-

APRIL.

2. Provisions at the "big farm" sold.¹⁶
5. Main line opened. Train reached Worthington from Sioux City, carrying letters dated February 21. Road open three days.
7. Train proceeded from Worthington to Adrian, expecting to reach Luverne on the eighth. Began snowing at two o'clock.
8. Northeast blizzard and heavy snow fall. All roads blockaded. Lumber burned for fuel.¹⁷
11. Snowing.
12. North wind drifts snow. Railroads again covered.
13. Thermometer registered zero.
17. Rock river broke up. Main line opened entire length and trains running.
18. Blockade raised and trains reach Luverne, bringing mail and groceries.¹⁸

ing the snow from the power. After the grinding each would return to his home, carrying with him his sack of meal.

¹⁶"The stock of provisions remaining on hand at the big farm has been disposed of to merchants in the village. A barrel of sugar sold to Landin & Nelson last Saturday was retailed by them in half-dollar lots in less than an hour and a half."—Herald, April 8, 1881.

¹⁷"Some of the residents of Luverne burned lumber which cost them sixteen dollars per thousand feet. In the country out-buildings and furniture were frequently used to supply heat. On Rock river, below Luverne, a log house was torn down by its owner and the material sold for fuel. There was a ready sale for the logs, and the farmer realized handsomely on his home.

¹⁸The Rock County Herald of April 22 told of this joyful event:

"Last Sunday afternoon [April 17] information was received at the depot to the effect that the road had been cleared to Worthington and that a train would reach this place at 6:30 p. m. The intelligence flew like wild-fire throughout the village, and long before the time at which the train was expected to arrive the people commenced flocking to the depot. As the most effective means of expressing the public gratification over the glad event the Rock Valley Cornet band turned out with its instruments and assembled on the depot platform to do honor to the occasion and greet the arrival of the train with appropriate ceremony. Owing to some delay the train did not arrive that evening.

"Monday morning the depot platform was again thronged with people. The long-disused 'buses were drawn up at their accustomed stations and the depot again presented an appearance like that of time long passed. At 8:45 the welcome neigh of the iron horse was heard in the distance, and presently an engine which had been sent on ahead of the trains pulled up at the depot. This was closely followed by Conductor Berkheimer's train, which consisted of several freight cars, one coach and the mail car. Still later John Kline's engine with a train of freight cars under charge of Conductor Winegar brought up the rear.

"The arrival of the trains was hailed with enthusiasm by the crowd at the depot and was watched with eager eyes by the populace throughout the village. With what feelings of pleasure and with what keen sense of relief this earnest of our deliverance from long-protracted exclusion from the outer world was regarded, none but the inhabitants of the snow-bound district can fully understand. Even though, as subsequently proved to be the case,

19. First shipment of coal since February 19 arrived at Luverne. Road again closed to traffic because of washouts between Luverne and Worthington. Traffic suspended until May 5.

21. Branch road opened between Luverne and Valley Springs and first train run. Work of opening Doon branch begun, but progress stopped by washouts and no train run until May 20.

22. Many fields reported still covered with snow.¹⁹

The long winter of 1880-81 was over, but the blockade was not raised until seventeen days later. Even before the snow blockade was raised, on April 17, the rapidly melting snows raised the streams from their banks and flooded whole areas of country. Rock valley, so far as the eye could see, was one vast sheet of water. Railroad bridges went out and tracks were washed away. The trains which ran over the Worthington & Sioux Falls line on April 18 and 19 were the only ones operated until May 5, on which date a train reached Rock river opposite Luverne. From that point mail and express matter were brought to the town. On May 11 the bridge across the Rock was repaired and freight trains entered Luverne. The damage to the bridges on the west end of the road was repaired and regular train service over the whole line was commenced May 19. One day later the Doon branch was put in operation. During the first four days after the arrival of the first freight train to Luverne the freight receipts amounted to over \$3500.

Owing to the floods and the late season the wheat crop in 1881 was a disastrous failure. Some of the other crops were fair and there was a good market for all produce. The assessed valuation in 1881

this establishment of communication with the world at large should prove of short duration, here at least was a temporary cessation of our grievances, and this was a matter of no small moment.

"The mail train brought thirty-five sacks of mail for Luverne and the Luverne district. The supply of sugar, coffee, kerosene oil and

wa \$1,105,068, an increase of nearly 300 per cent in five years.

An excellent crop of small grain was produced in 1882, the first crop in several years that was secured and marketed without some discouraging feature. The result was a rise in the value of Rock county farming lands and an influx of new settlers, who came to share in the prosperous times. Many debts contracted during the grasshopper days and the lean years following, brought on by blight and unfavorable weather conditions, were liquidated. The local paper on January 5, 1883, told of this mortgage-burning time:

The drafts on the future upon which many people have been living for years past are coming due and are being paid. During the hard times when there was but little with which to pay, the time of payment of debts previously contracted was extended and what spare cash our farmers could raise was thus left free to be used for current expenses. Agricultural operations during the past season have been in the main so successful that creditors have demanded payment, and the greater part of the proceeds of the year's labor has been employed in paying old debts. This has left the majority of farmers short of means for current use; yet, while they have been harder pushed for money this fall when crops were good than when they have been in seasons of failure, it is plain that they are in the main in better circumstances and have made decided progress toward "better times." The circumstances described are the natural result of hard times. The pinch, consequent upon the payment of old debts, must be passed before prosperity can be enjoyed, and the fact that this inevitable stage of progress has arrived is an encouraging index of prospective improvement.

More farm houses were erected during 1883 than had been put up in several previous seasons. The heaviest crop of grain ever before raised in the county was produced, and the advance to prosperity con-

other articles of which the village has been destitute, received by the train Monday, was almost exhausted Wednesday."

¹⁹The snowfall in Minnesota during the winter was 12.51 feet, of which 9.68 was during December, January and February.

tinued. Said the Rock County Herald on October 19: "The amount of grain to be threshed in Rock county is simply surprising. Threshers state that it will be absolutely impossible to get it all done this fall and that threshing will be continued all winter."

During the prosperous times of the early eighties, in 1884, the Burlington railroad (now the Rock Island) was built through Rock county. The construction of the road was an item of great importance. It passed through parts of the county which before were long distances from markets and resulted in a more rapid development of those portions than would otherwise have been the case. As a result of its construction, two new villages, Hardwick and Kanaranzi, came into existence.

So early as 1882 it was rumored that the Burlington officials intended building to Rock county, extending the branch road from Worthington. If such were at the time the intention, it was abandoned.

In the fall of 1883 a party of surveyors in charge of J. A. Divine ran a line from Sibley, Iowa, to Pipestone for a proposed extension of the Spirit Lake & Western railroad. The survey was said to have been made under the direction of Close Bros. & Co. The line as surveyed entered Rock county near the southeastern corner of Magnolia township, crossed the Omaha road on section 8 of that township, and continued in a northerly direction to Pipestone. On the return trip the surveyors ran a line close to the mounds. A little later in the same season the Burlington officials surveyed a line northwest from Worthington, which en-

tered Rock county on section 24, Battle Plain township, crossed Rock river on section 16 of the same township, and continued northwestward to section 3, Denver township, where it intersected a previous survey.

It became evident that one or more lines of railroad might be secured for Rock county in the near future. To take action to this end, and, incidentally, to see that Luverne was not passed by in case a new road was built, the business men of that village held a meeting January 18, 1884. The matter of the extension of the Burlington from Worthington was specifically considered, but there was also a general discussion of railroad projects that might eventuate. It was known that both the Burlington and Milwaukee interests were considering the matter of extensions through the county. At the meeting in Luverne it was suggested that local capital be employed to construct a line to a junction with some road in case either of the companies saw fit to build.²⁰

The people of Rock county had not long to wait for the "proposition" which was the inevitable forerunner of railroad building in the early days. On February 2, 1884, General Superintendent C. J. Ives and Captain S. L. Dows, of the Burlington road, appeared in Luverne to consult with the citizens. They stated that the Burlington company proposed to build a line from some point in Dickinson county, Iowa (probably Lake Park), by way of Sibley to Pipestone, with a view of extending the line to Bismarck, Dakota territory, and that if sufficient encouragement were given, the company would be pleased to build by way of Luverne. A conference was held between the Luverne

²⁰ "If the Milwaukee company or the Burlington see fit to build it, all the better; if not, Luverne will act independently in the matter and proceed in the spring to build a branch line, either to a connection with the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern at some point along

its Bismarck extension, or with the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul line at Edgerton. This plan is entirely feasible and it is now reasonably certain that, in the contingency mentioned, it will be carried into effect."—Rock County Herald, February 1, 1884.

railroad committee, composed of P. J. Kniss, William Jacobsen, W. M. Raymond and H. J. Miller, and the railroad representatives. Then a mass meeting was held, at which the price asked was made known.

Rock county, by reason of aid given the Omaha road, was bonded to its limit, but the townships still had bonding privileges and it was asked that these be utilized. The terms agreed upon at the mass meeting were substantially as follows: The people of Luverne promised that Luverne village and Luverne township bonds to the amount of \$15,000 should be issued; to donate suitable depot grounds within 2500 feet of the court house square, or pay in lieu thereof \$3500; to use their best efforts to secure the voting of a tax of five per cent of the assessed valuation in each of the townships of Kanaranzi, Clinton, Magnolia, Mound, Vienna and Rose Dell; and also to use their best efforts in assisting the company to secure the right-of-way through the county. On condition that the Luverne village and Luverne township bonds agreed upon were issued and that the tax in the other townships was voted, the Burlington company agreed to have the road constructed to Luverne on or before December 1, 1884. A contract embodying these terms was drawn up and within the next few days was signed by 118 residents of Luverne and immediate vicinity, which practically assured the voting of the bonds in the village and in Luverne township.

The Luverne residents upon whom fell

the burdens of maintaining the proper enthusiasm to secure the voting of the tax in the several precincts changed the original plans. They reasoned that all the townships in the county, with the possible exception of Martin and Beaver Creek, would derive direct benefit from the building of the road, and they therefore asked that all the precincts except the two mentioned should vote a tax proportionate to their assessed valuation, the total amount thus raised to be about \$15,000. Considerable opposition developed in parts of the county to voting the tax, and the Luverne enthusiasts were obliged to wage an aggressive campaign. Early in March a mass meeting was held at Luverne, participated in by those favoring the bonus. The well-worked plan to bring the voters to a bonus-voting frame of mind of pitting one town against another was employed, Adrian in this instance being the scare-crow.²¹

In some of the precincts asked to vote aid elections were not held. On March 15, Luverne village, by a vote of 202 to 2, decided to issue \$7500 bonds for the purpose, and on the same day Luverne township voted the same amount. Mound township voted a tax of \$3000 on March 15; Springwater, \$1500 on March 18; Rose Dell, \$1500 on March 19; Denver, \$1300 on March 20. Clinton township was asked to furnish \$2000 on March 21, but the tax did not carry, and on March 22 Magnolia township decided adversely on the proposition of taxing itself \$4000 as a bonus to the railway company.²²

offered."—Rock County Herald, February 22, 1884

²¹"Information has been received from Captain Dows, of the Burlington road, that the 'people of Adrian are very active in their efforts to secure the proposed new road and are getting up a proposition to the company which they feel confident will oversize Luverne.' Later information confirms this statement and leaves no room for doubt that if Luverne secures the road the condition of the company's proposition must be fully complied with. Adrian is on the direct line from Sibley to Pipestone. It is believed that the Close Brothers would be quite as well satisfied with that route as with the one through Luverne and it is reasonable to suppose, therefore, that the road will go where the greatest inducements are

²²All the bonds were turned over to the Cedar Rapids, Iowa Falls & Northwestern Railway company (the name of the Burlington auxiliary company which built the road through Rock county) during the fall of 1884, the last ones being delivered November 22. To comply with the demands of a state law, the railroad company, in exchange for the township and village bonds, issued its bonds in a like amount. On August 7, 1900, the Luverne village council unanimously voted to accept an offer of twenty-five cents on the dollar for the \$7500 worth of railroad bonds it had received in 1884, and received therefor \$1875.

The railroad company evidently considered that the amounts voted were sufficient, for early in April the preliminary survey through Rock county was made, and in less than a month the line had been definitely located. The right-of-way through Rock county cost about \$30,000. The contract for grading and bridging between Lake Park and Pipestone was let to E. P. Reynolds & Son, and the work of grading between Luverne and Sibley was begun late in May. Grading was commenced on the line north of Luverne early in July. The track-layers reached the southern boundary of Rock county about the middle of August and on September 1 the road was completed to Luverne. The first shipment of freight was received on the third, although regular freight trains were not operated until the eleventh. The track was completed through the county on September 19. The same day the station at Luverne was opened and M. M. Knapp began his duties in a box car, which served for a temporary depot. Passenger train service was established October 26.

The most destructive wind storm in Rock county's history occurred on the afternoon of Monday, July 21, 1884. The storm was general throughout the county, but was most violent in the townships of Rose Dell, Springwater, Beaver Creek, Martin, Luverne and Magnolia. L. Lassessen, a carpenter employed in constructing the Lutheran church in Martin township, was killed and a few persons were injured. The storm did not take the form of a cyclone, or whirlwind, but in the less destructive form of a hurricane the tempest was terrific. It left in its course a scene of wreck, devastation and disaster unparalleled in the history of the county, before or since.

Early in the morning indications of unusual commotion in the elements were no-

ticeable, and later in the day the excessive heat, coupled with the appearance of heavy banks of lowering clouds which darkened the western and northwestern horizons, presaged the proximity of a violent storm. Gradually the clouds gathered toward a common center, gaining in darkness until the blackness was intense. The sky in the vicinity of the cloud took on a greenish tint. Toward four o'clock in the afternoon the outlines of the approaching tempest became clearly defined in the northwest, and very soon after a huge mass of over-hanging clouds, plainly indicating the approach of a strong wind, rolled on with startling rapidity, accompanied by a deep, rumbling noise.

The appearance of the storm, though unusually threatening, was not such as to occasion serious alarm, and after the first vigorous gust the impression prevailed that the worst was over. In this the appearances were deceptive. After a brief cessation of the first violent outbreak, the rain began to fall in torrents and the wind gathered strength. A moment later the wild tempest began its work in earnest. The rain was driven before the wind in vast sheets, with appalling force, and the tempest steadily increased in fury. When a cessation of the storm might have been expected, the force of the now thoroughly maddened elements developed a frightful violence, and each moment the terrors of the tempest were increased. There was then good cause for general alarm. The strongest structures trembled to their foundations, others, racked and swayed in momentary danger of destruction, while others, less substantial or more directly exposed to the wind, were blown into a thousand pieces. The tempest raged furiously for over half an hour, and the scenes during this period were indescribably appalling. Houses, barns and outbuildings were demolished, and broken

boards, doors, windows and even roofs from wrecked buildings were driven through the air in wild confusion, crashing into buildings still standing and bringing terror and confusion to the inmates; chimneys tumbled down with fearful racket, and bricks were sent flying in all directions. For a time it seemed that total destruction must be the result, but the force of the tempest finally diminished, and toward five o'clock the storm was over.

The damage was great. There was none living in the path of the storm that escaped without loss. Hundreds of buildings over the county were wrecked, grain fields were leveled to the earth, and hundreds of tons of hay were scattered to the four winds. The damage in Luverne was estimated at \$15,000, and in Beaver Creek a number of the business houses were demolished. Many miraculous escapes from death and serious injury occurred.²³

The year 1884 was one of the most prosperous in Rock county's early history and was a time of jubilee. Several causes contributed to this condition: the building of the Burlington railroad, an excellent crop, the throwing upon the market of the railroad lands, and a heavy immigration.

In the village of Beaver Creek Mrs. Mather and Mrs. Ness, with six small children, made their escape through a window of a hotel building that was being demolished and were caught by the wind and prostrated in the middle of the street. They finally made their way to safety.

Miss Flora Mather was conducting school in district No. 29 when the storm struck. She and all the pupils deserted the school house and took refuge on the bare prairie, where they

Nearly 80,000 acres of Rock county land were added to the tax rolls that year. These revenue-producing additions were from the following sources: School lands purchased, 4280 acres; final proof on government lands, 9493 acres; Southern Minnesota Railway Extension lands purchased, 8532 acres; Sioux City & St. Paul Railway company's lands purchased, 25,879 acres; Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway company's lands contracted, 31,365 acres.

Land seekers came to the county in large numbers and indications of prosperity were apparent on all sides. Exclusive wheat farming had been found unprofitable, and only a limited acreage was sown. Instead of raising only wheat, farmers raised flax and hay and turned their attention to stock raising and dairying more than formerly. Flax growing became one of the big industries. There was an immense crop in this year of jubilee, and it commanded a big price. The results of prosperous times were seen in building improvements in all parts of the county and in the prompt payment of debts.

The farmers were at last firmly upon their feet, and the high road to wealth was henceforth open. The recovery from the grasshopper scourge was at last complete.

remained during the storm, beaten by the wind, rain and hail. All escaped serious injury.

Colonel Harrison White was carried some distance by the force of the wind and deposited in a hay stack. Later a building came down in ruins about him, but he escaped with slight injuries.

The Martin township church, in course of construction, was demolished, burying the workmen in the debris. L. Lassessen was killed and another workman seriously injured.

CHAPTER VII.

THE AGE OF PROSPERITY—1885-1911.

FACTS supplying the context of preceding chapters lead to the conclusion that the people of Rock county had passed through many years of hardship and bitter disappointment before a permanent condition of prosperity was reached. This long period of travail was punctuated by an occasional year that promised better times. In the earliest days the settlers contended with obstacles incident to the settlement of any new country, being far from railroads, markets, schools, churches, and the many institutions that in our present day civilization are considered necessary to the enjoyment of life. The community had hardly emerged from its frontier state when the grasshopper scourge came with all its terrifying inflictions, and the country received a setback which took years to overcome. Following the departure of the plague were a few years of partial crop failures because of weather conditions. Then came a period of better times—the reconstruction period—during which the debts contracted during the dark days were paid and a new start was made. In the middle eighties the county had developed to a point where permanent prosperity was assured. Yet in that period, at the beginning of the year 1885, only about one-fifth of the land in Rock county was under cultivation.

New farms were opened in 1885, and the demand for lands was good, many homeseekers arriving during the spring and fall months. One of the best crops produced in the early days was harvested. In a review of the events of the year, the Rock County Herald said: "The year just ended has been one of the most prosperous Rock county has ever known. Our farmers have all made material progress and our business men have prospered accordingly. Improvements have been made in every portion of the county and the value of real estate has been greatly enhanced."

The population of Rock county in 1885 was 5239, a gain of 1570 in five years. The population of the several precincts was as follows:

Battle Plain	157
Beaver Creek Township.....	531
Beaver Creek Village	165
Clinton	328
Denver	231
Kanaranzi	236
Luverne Township	316
Luverne Village	1346
Magnolia	242
Martin	743
Mound	256
Rose Dell	210
Springwater	243
Vienna	215
Total	5239

The first attempt to build a court house was made in 1885. Long before, the di-

lapidated old shell that for so long had answered the purpose had outgrown its usefulness and was utterly inadequate. In its one room were located the offices of four county officers, while the other officials had no public place of business. The matter of a new court house was brought up early in the year. In order to construct a building it was necessary to issue bonds, and to issue bonds it was necessary to receive authority from the state legislature. Accordingly, on January 15, Senator Crosby introduced a bill authorizing the county commissioners to submit to the electors a proposition to issue bonds to an amount not exceeding \$20,000 for court house purposes. The bill passed the senate the day it was introduced, under suspension of the rules, it passed the house the following day, and on the eighteenth a certified copy of the act was received by the county officers.

The preliminaries were quickly attended to. On January 21 the county board met and called a special election to be held February 17, to vote on the question of bonds. The opposition to the issuance of bonds was general outside of Luverne village, and the proposition met disastrous defeat at the polls. Following was the vote:

TOWNSHIPS	For Bonds	Against Bonds
Battle Plain.....	3	14
Beaver Creek.....	3	113
Clinton.....	1	36
Denver.....	2	24
Kanaranzi.....	1	13
Luverne	188	73
Magnolia.....	3	14
Martin.....	0	93
Mound.....	13	12
Rose Dell.....	0	36
Springwater.....	0	30
Vienna.....	7	8
TOTAL.....	221	466

Like nearly every county in the state of Minnesota, Rock county has had a county seat removal contest. It came in the winter of 1885-86, and Beaver Creek was the village which sought to wrest the honor from Luverne. The enterprising village on the "roaring Beaver" was at the zenith of its power and was peopled with an exceptionally progressive class of business men. The agitation for removal was started in a spirit of levity but rapidly developed into a serious undertaking. Before the contest was brought to a close much of the bitterness usually accompanying contests between rival towns was engendered.

The agitation for removal developed serious propensities early in December, 1885.¹ The sentiment of the people against the expenditure of funds for building a court house had been strongly expressed at the polls within the year, and the Beaver Creek strategists were not slow to take advantage of this sentiment. They started their campaign with the promise that funds should be raised by subscription to an amount not less than \$20,000, with which to construct a court house to be donated to Rock county when the removal was accomplished. The promise resulted in gaining many adherents for Beaver Creek.

The removal enthusiasts held their first public meeting at Beaver Creek December 12. A permanent organization was perfected by the selection of the following officers: F. S. Gibson, president; John Park, secretary; A. J. Daley and E. A. Knapp, assistant secretaries; Harrison White, treasurer. Promises of financial support to the movement were made by many present, and enthusiastic speeches were made by Harrison White, Howard Cummings, Jacob Merkel, Frank Craw-

¹The Minnesota legislature of 1885 passed a county seat removal bill which provided for the course of procedure. The first step was

to present a petition to the board of county commissioners, signed by a majority of the freeholders who were also legal voters and

ford, John Mickelson, Fred Finke, H. W. Knapp, Eli Terry, A. J. Daley, Abram Osmun, G. B. Roderick, Frank Ressigieu, J. D. Campbell, William Baird, J. O. Tyler and Charles Pumphries. Committees were appointed on by-laws, finances, ways and means, and to prepare a petition of protest against the expenditure of county money for improving the old county building. In each precinct in which it was believed there were Beaver Creek adherents, working committees were appointed as follows:

Rose Dell—William Vickerman, K. K. Steen, C. S. Bruce, E. H. Ellefson, L. M. Larson, G. H. Vickerman.

Springwater—Robert McDowell, Paul Engelson, Charles A. Reynolds, B. Chapin, Nick Brennen, B. S. Pengra.

Beaver Creek Township—James Marshall, Iver D. Eitrem, Howard Cummings, Aldro Grout, H. H. Streaver, Chris Hoeffler, Peter Kille, J. M. Leslie.

Beaver Creek Village—Eli Terry, J. O. Britson, G. B. Roderick, Abram Osmun, J. M. Bennett, F. D. Ressigieu, A. J. Daley, H. W. Knapp.

Martin—George Anderson, Niels Jacobson, O. Berkland, John Nelson, Fred C. Finke, Paul Sandbo, F. B. Myrick, Thomas Weston, Fred Nuffer.

Clinton—William Spracher, Colonel Woodruff, Ole P. Steen, Nels Clemetson, John Lund, Ed. Maloney.

Luverne Township—Anton Reder,² R. Jaybush, Henry Carner, Frank Loose, John Mickelson, T. P. Grout.

Another meeting was held January 2, at which further plans were put under way. It was decided to organize a stock company for the purpose of raising funds and building the Beaver Creek court house, and subscriptions were opened. The people of Beaver Creek pledged \$10,000 (which was afterwards increased), and the people of other precincts pledged liberal subscriptions. Arrangements were made for

holding meetings in country school houses, and thereafter an active campaign was waged throughout western Rock county. A glee club accompanied the campaigners, and large crowds turned out to hear the arguments for removal in speeches and song. The petition asking that no money be spent for improvement of county buildings was presented to the county board January 7. A committee, composed of Harrison White, H. W. Knapp and A. J. Daley, was named on January 16 to draft a petition for removal, but not until February 1 was the petition ready for signatures.

The Beaver Creek campaigners extended the field of their operations to the "enemy's country," holding a meeting in Luverne January 26, which was attended by five hundred people. It was a novel and interesting occasion—a meeting held in Luverne and attended by Luverne people, in the interests of a movement to take away the county seat from that village. Beaver Creek orators presented arguments in favor of the change and exhorted their hearers to sign the petition when it should be ready for signatures. The subscription papers were exhibited, showing that \$22,000 had been subscribed, of which Beaver Creek had furnished \$10,000.

The crusade for signers to the removal petition was begun February 1. At an enthusiastic meeting at White's hall on that date, the first freeholders attached their signatures to the document. At the same time the organization of the association to construct the court house was perfected.³

residents of the county, asking that change of the county seat to some designated place in the county be made. The county commissioners were then required to submit the question of such removal to the qualified electors, at a general election for state and county officers. To be successful the proposition must be carried by a majority vote in case the question had never been voted upon. In case the question had been submitted before, three-fourths of the number of votes cast was required to carry the proposition.

²Refused to serve. Ira Chapman appointed, and he, also, refused the committee assignment.

³The directors of the building association were Abram Osmun, John Park, G. B. Roderick and J. D. Campbell, of Beaver Creek village; James Marshall, C. R. Henton, Jacob Merkel, C. Hoeffler, Iver D. Eitrem and H. F. Cummings, of Beaver Creek township; Ole Sandbo, F. B. Myrick, Fred Nuffer, Ole Ruud, F. Finke and O. Berkland, of Martin; B. F. Pengra, A. Acheson, E. N. Curtis and N. P. Noble, of Springwater; W. A. Spracher, of Clinton.

Not until the campaign had reached this stage did the people of Luverne and eastern Rock county lay defensive plans, refusing to take a serious view of the matter until it became evident that the Beaver Creek people were in earnest and were about to circulate their petition. Then those in favor of retaining the seat of government in Luverne prepared a petition of remonstrance against removal. They began a crusade for signatures to that petition and against the signing of the Beaver Creek document.⁴

To formulate plans for defense, a meeting was held at Luverne on the afternoon of February 8. It was called to order by J. F. Shoemaker, and W. M. Raymond and J. L. Helm were respectively elected chairman and secretary. Plans were discussed and the following resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS: A petition has been industriously circulated within the county of Rock, Minnesota, praying the county commissioners of said county to submit the question of removing from the village of Luverne the county seat to the village of Beaver Creek, and

WHEREAS: We believe it is against the best interests of the whole county that said petition should be circulated for the reasons following:

1. That the county seat is now located in the most central part of the county possible for said purpose.

2. That we believe that county seats are located, not with reference to the town or village offering the greatest amount of money therefor, but for their location with reference to the geographical limits of the county and the accessibility with reference to the people who desire to do business thereat.

3. That said agitations retard the progress of the entire community, unsettle values and result always in retarding the progress of the county.

RESOLVED: We use our best efforts and do all in our power to bring said agitation to an immediate close.

Even after it became apparent that the projectors of the enterprise were in earnest, they [the people of Luverne] cherished the hope that the iniquitous folly might be abandoned. . . . The movement has at last come to a pass in which Luverne and the eastern part of the county are compelled to take measures for defense. . . . Compelled

A permanent organization was perfected. The following vice presidents for the several townships were named, each vice president vested with authority to name an executive committee, who should have charge of the work in their respective townships: George L. Cole, Battle Plain; E. L. Grout, Beaver Creek; Joseph Knight, Clinton; R. J. Cobban, Denver; J. E. Brown, Kanaranzi; A. Jaycox, Luverne; S. Young, Magnolia; J. F. Shoemaker, Mound; Ole Haga, Vienna; Thomas Ganfield, Rose Dell. At the time of the meeting 380 freeholders had signed the petition of remonstrance, and more were added at that time.

The contest came to a speedy close after the Luverne meeting. Within a few days enough freeholders had signed the remonstrance to make certain the defeat of the Beaver Creek petition, and about the middle of February those favoring the removal gave up the fight. The petition was not presented to the board of county commissioners.

An old settlers' association was organized at Luverne February 13, 1886, with the following officers: Philo Hawes, president; E. N. Darling, recording secretary; George W. Kniss, corresponding secretary; E. L. Grout, treasurer. Vice presidents were chosen as follows: P. J. Kniss, of Luverne; Amos Estey, of Clinton; C. H. Older, of Kanaranzi; H. Brockway, of Magnolia; William Maynes, of Vienna; Frank Mitchell, of Battle Plain; L. A. Kartrude, of Denver; J. F. Shoemaker, of Mound; C. S. Bruce, of Rose Dell; W. H. Givens, of Springwater; F. Meircort, of Beaver Creek; Osmund Berkland, of Martin.

by the force of unfortunate circumstances, the people of Rock county who are opposed to the removal of the county seat are organizing their forces for the best interests of the county. In the earnest hope that the fight might be averted, they have hesitated to make this movement until forbearance ceased to be a virtue."—Rock County Herald, February 5, 1886.

The year 1886 was not a particularly fruitful or prosperous one. There was very little movement in real estate and times were dull. In the country some farm improvements were made, but in comparison with the two or three preceding years, the twelve-month was an uneventful one.

The next year a splendid record in agricultural advancement was made. The acreage of crops in 1887 was increased more than 21,000 acres over 1886. Many acres of prairie land were broken, many new farms were opened, a great amount of building was done, and the number of the livestock greatly increased and the breed improved.

In the history of the northwest there have been a few winter storms of such unnatural severity that they stand out as events of historical importance. The most severe of these awful storms was the blizzard of January 7, 8 and 9, 1873, an account of which has been given. Ranking second was the terrible blizzard of January 12, 1888, when scores of people perished. In Rock county three lives were sacrificed and many people became lost in the storm and badly frozen.

The conditions essential to such a destructive storm as this proved to be had been filled by the weather during the week previous. On January 5 a storm of sleet had frozen on the surface of the deep snow to an icy smoothness. On the evening of the eleventh there was a heavy snowfall, which continued until the blizzard began, the thermometer during this time registering about fifteen degrees above zero.

At about five o'clock on the afternoon of Thursday, January 12, the wind subsided to a dead calm. Ten minutes later a howling, shrieking blizzard was raging with blinding fury, rendering it hazardous to undertake a journey of even a few blocks in towns and making it equivalent to almost certain death to be caught

away from shelter on the prairie. The terrors of the storm were augmented by a rapidly falling mercury, which soon reached the region of the thirties and rendered infinitely small the chances that any unfortunate being could survive who might be exposed to its perils. Because of the mildness of the temperature which had characterized the weather during the early part of the day, and because of the lateness of the hour when the storm began—an hour when farmers were returning to their homes and children coming home from school,—many Rock county settlers were caught in the storm. The blizzard continued with unabated fury until eight o'clock Friday morning; then it lost much of its violence, but continued until Saturday night.

Of the three men who met death in the storm in Rock county, all were elderly men, none of whom had a family or relatives in the county. One of the victims was John Loy, sixty years of age, who was employed on A. M. Crosby's farm on section 16, Magnolia township. Before the storm began, Mr. Loy and Ed. Bullis started from the buildings with sixty head of cattle to drive them to Elk slough to water. Mr. Bullis went ahead to pump the water and his companion drove the stock. When the former reached the watering place the blizzard struck, churning the snow with volcanic fury and obscuring the vision. Mr. Bullis filled the tank and waited some time for the arrival of his companion and the cattle. Concluding that Mr. Loy had returned to the house, Mr. Bullis started on the way back and succeeded in reaching home after wandering about in the blizzard two hours. A searching party at once set out to find the missing man. They kept within shouting distance of one another and covered considerable territory, but were unable to get track of the lost man or the stock.

The dead body of Mr. Loy was found the following morning among the cattle, about a half mile from the slough. The stock had apparently stampeded and Mr. Loy had endeavored to bring them back until overcome with the cold. Eleven of the cattle perished in the storm.

Another who lost his life on that awful day was Eric Olson, a bachelor, sixty years of age, who lived two and one-half miles north of Beaver Creek. Just before the storm struck, Mr. Olson had gone to a straw stack, a half mile from his home, after fuel. He became lost in the blizzard and after traveling about for some time succumbed to the severity of the storm. After a search of several days, his neighbors found the dead body about one and one-half miles from the house. Excepting the feet, the entire body was drifted over with snow.

The third victim was O. A. Hunt, a peddler who resided at Flandreau and who for a number of years had been engaged in selling goods in the country. It seems that when the storm struck, Mr. Hunt abandoned his team and set out on foot in search of shelter. He traveled a long distance before overcome by the storm, the place where he met death being fifteen miles from where he left the team. The body was not found until April 1. It was discovered on section 28,

⁵Ole Haga and his son were caught in the storm in Vienna township, but succeeded in reaching a deserted house, where they spent the night. Both were quite severely frozen.

Charles Older was obliged to spend the night in a haystack near Ashetock and escaped without injury.

Thomas Gmfield had a narrow escape in reaching his home in the northeastern part of Luverne on the night of the storm. He made the latter part of the journey on his hands and knees.

Milon Pearson and William Hibbs had a rough experience a short distance south of Luverne. They were hauling a load of hay when the storm burst in all its fury. Unhitching the team, they started with it for Jens Christianson's home, but lost their way. After wandering about in the storm for a time, they came to a pile of baled hay. There they made a shelter for themselves and team and remained until morning. Mr. Pearson's face, hands and feet were badly frozen, but Mr. Hibbs was only slightly frost-bitten.

Frank Loose and William Spracher had driven

Rose Dell township, by Elob and Charles Lundquest. As Mr. Hunt had no family and even no permanent place of abode when in Flandreau, his death was not known until the body was found.

Many Rock county settlers had narrow escapes from death. Some were obliged to spend the night in snowbanks or haystacks, and there were several severe cases of freezing.⁵

Two railways were constructed through Rock county in 1888. These were the Sioux Falls extension of the Illinois Central, which passed through the southwestern part of the county and on which were founded the villages of Bruce and Virginia (Steen), and the Willmar & Sioux Falls (Great Northern) road, which passed through the northwestern corner of Rock county.

The survey for the Illinois Central line was made through a corner of Clinton township and the southern part of Martin township in July, 1887, grading was commenced on the Rock county part of the road August 27, track-laying was begun early in December, and the rails were laid through Rock county before the close of the year. The line was opened early in 1888, but regular passenger trains were not operated until June 2.

So early as the spring of 1886 surveyors in the employ of the Willmar &

en through the storm to the school house for their children. The storm increasing, the gentlemen decided to leave the children at the school house and set out for home. Mr. Loose reached the house of Mr. Nurnberg and spent the night there. His face was badly frozen. Mr. Spracher lost his way and spent the night in a straw stack.

The children of Mr. Preston had a narrow escape on their way home from school. They had become lost in the storm and wandered into a cornfield. There they found a wire fence, and, following it, reached home in safety.

Miss Hattie Hadwick, school teacher in a Springwater district, recognized the danger which threatened, and did not dismiss school, but remained in the building all night with her pupils.

George L. Cole had a narrow escape at his farm in Battle Plain township. He was in the storm until dark, endeavoring to get his cattle to shelter and had great difficulty in finding his way to the house after giving up the effort. Forty cattle of his herd of seventy perished in the blizzard.

Sioux Falls Railway company were at work in Rose Dell and Springwater townships, but the line was not definitely located until the following year. Grading was commenced on the line in the fall of 1887, but the track was not laid until October, 1888. The Willmar & Sioux Falls road, which is now a part of the Great Northern system, passes through Rose Dell township and touches the extreme northwest corner of Springwater township. The village of Jasper, on the north line of Rock county, was founded as a result of the construction of this road.

The building of Rock county's court house was also an occurrence of 1888, agitation for its construction having been begun early in 1887. For years the little shack that had served as a county building had been unsuited for the purpose and an eyesore,⁶ but the sentiment of the country precincts had been uniformly against the expenditure of money to remedy conditions.

The initiative was taken by residents of the county seat at a meeting held at Kniss Brothers' office February 19, 1887. At that meeting it was decided to draft a bill to be introduced in the legislature asking for authority to issue bonds to an amount of \$75,000. For the purpose of drawing up the bill a committee composed of A. M. Crosby, A. Barek and R. B. Hinkly was appointed, and for the purpose of placing the matter before the voters a committee composed of J. B. Shawver, W. P. Preston, J. C. Kelley, R. E. Moreland and George B. Brace. At once it be-

came apparent that the people of Rock county would not ratify the proposition to expend so great a sum, and another meeting was held February 21, at which the amount of bonds to be incorporated in the bill was placed at \$50,000. Even at the lower figure, opposition developed, which, however, did not extend to fighting the bill in the legislature, and the act was passed.

The failure of the county seat removal scheme the year before still rankled in the breasts of the people of Beaver Creek and vicinity,⁷ and it became known that bonds to the amount of \$50,000 would not be authorized by the voters. Therefore it was decided to again reduce the amount asked. A mass meeting of Rock county citizens, attended by more than 300 taxpayers, was held at Luverne May 7, when the following petition form was adopted without a dissenting vote:

To the Board of County Commissioners of Rock County, Minnesota:

We, the citizens of Rock county, each village and township therein being represented, assembled in mass convention, do this May 7, 1887, resolve as follows:

First: That we are in favor of building a court house at the county seat of said county at the earliest time possible.

Second: That the structure be built of Rock county granite.

Third: That the expense thereof shall not exceed thirty thousand dollars.

Fourth: That the board of county commissioners shall take all necessary steps at once to bring the matter to a vote of the people.

The petition, quite liberally signed, was presented to the board of county commissioners, and on May 16 that body passed a resolution, calling a special election for

⁷At a mass meeting held at White's hall, in Beaver Creek, March 5, 1887, the following resolution was adopted:

"WHEREAS: The benefits accruing to the citizens of Luverne by the building, by the county at large, of such court house and jail, would, in our opinion, be such that they could well afford to stand the larger portion of such expense incurred thereby, therefore be it

"RESOLVED: That we will use our best efforts to secure a vote to bond the county for \$20,000, upon the condition that the village of Luverne will donate \$20,000 more and build a court house worth \$40,000."

⁶"The county building is full of business these days. Almost every available foot of space is occupied with desks and tables, and with all the county officials crowded into one room and people coming in and going out constantly one can easily imagine what a pleasant place it is to do business. The county officials manage to get along and do their work under the present disadvantages, but the time is not far distant when it will be absolutely impossible to do the county business in the old rookery now used for county offices."—Rock County Herald, January 28, 1887.

June 18 to vote on the question of issuing \$30,000 bonds for the erection of a court house, jail and sheriff's residence. At the election bonds were voted, the result by precincts being as follows:

PRECINCTS	For Bonds	Against Bonds
Battle Plain.....	7	13
Beaver Creek Township	10	47
Beaver Creek Village ...	15	27
Clinton	22	14
Denver	14	8
Kanaranzi	9	10
Luverne Township.....	55	1
Luverne Village	319	0
Magnolia	21	8
Martin.....	5	61
Mound.....	27	1
Rose Dell	12	15
Springwater.....	17	19
Vienna	23	1
TOTAL.....	556	225

The county commissioners took prompt action to carry out the expressed will of the people. On June 24 the bonds were advertised for sale. T. D. Allen was selected as the architect, and the plans he submitted were accepted June 12. The contract for the erection of the building, of Luverne granite, was let to A. Tollefson on a bid of \$23,500 on August 11, 1887. P. H. Gillham was appointed superintendent of construction August 23, and two days later ground was broken for the new building. The structure was turned over to the county August 4, 1888, and accepted by the commissioners on that date, conditional upon the performance of certain specified work,⁸ and early in October the building was occupied by the county officers. The old court house was sold on a bid of \$75, in cash!

⁸A final settlement was made in the district court in March, 1890. The contractor brought suit for nearly \$4000, alleged to be due for extras, changes in plans and delays caused by the county board; the county set up a counter claim of \$6000 for alleged defects in the work. The case was dismissed without recovery by either party to the suit.

⁹Both Beaver Creek and Valley Springs were lively candidates for stations on the new line

Because of the activity in railroad building and other lines of improvements, conditions were fairly prosperous in 1888. Grain was not an average crop, being injured by blight. Some fields were badly lodged by heavy rains and difficulty was encountered in harvesting the crop.

Although the growing season of 1889 was dry, conditions were better than the preceding year and a good crop was raised. A large acreage was converted from the prairie state into productive fields, and new homes were established in every township, Springwater being especially fortunate in receiving a large settlement of thrifty farmers.

Another railway, the Sioux City & Northern, later merged into the Great Northern system, was built through the southwestern part of Rock county in 1889, and the village of Hills was founded as a result. The company had been organized several years before, had died and been buried several times, and had been resurrected as often. It had planned several routes north from Sioux City, and surveyors in its employ had run lines all over Rock county. The last revival came early in 1889, when the necessary funds were raised to construct a railroad from Sioux City to Palisades (Garretson), South Dakota. Soon it became known that the road would pass through Rock county, but it was some time before the exact course the road would take was learned. The grading contract was let in July, 1889, and work on the line was commenced at once. The railroad was completed through Rock county before the close of the year.

of road. A bill was passed by the legislature of 1889, authorizing the village of Beaver Creek to issue bonds to aid in the purchase of right-of-way through Beaver Creek township, and on July 22 a committee of Beaver Creek citizens, consisting of A. J. Daley, W. T. Berry and I. H. Burt, went to Sioux City to interview the authorities with regard to building the road through their village. Both candidates for the honor were passed by, the railroad passing about equidistant between them.

The first few years of the decade beginning with 1890 constituted one of the most active periods of development in the whole history of Rock county. Good crops were the rule, there was rapid settlement, and in all lines of endeavor great progress was made.

During the spring months of 1890 many new settlers arrived. A bountiful harvest was gathered,¹⁰ and then came the boom. Rock county real estate was much sought, and landseekers covered all parts of the county, having a tendency to rapidly increase the values. In the north-eastern townships, particularly, the newcomers invested, a special train from Orange City, Iowa, bringing 127 farmers in one day. An estimate placed the value of building improvements for the year at \$175,000.

The federal census of 1890 gave Rock county a population of 6817, a substantial increase over the former enumerations. By precincts the population was as follows:

Battle Plain	248
Beaver Creek Township.....	633
Beaver Creek Village	232
Clinton	473
Denver	290
Kanaranzi	343
Luverne Township	394
Luverne Village	1466
Magnolia	407
Martin	1010
Mound	325
Rose Dell	307
Springwater	415
Vienna	274
Total	6817

¹⁰"Rock county has produced an abundant harvest and furnished thereby still stronger foundation for its proud claim to the distinction of being by nature the richest agricultural county in the west."—Rock County Herald, August 2, 1890.

¹¹"The year 1892 will be notable in the history of Luverne and Rock county as one of splendid advancement in material prosperity. No single year in the previous history of either can show a record of greater activity in the way of improvements. The splendid natural advantages of this favored section have for years been attracting the attention of homeseekers in the east, and Rock county has won extended fame as the richest agricultural county in the north-west. As a result there has been a steady and constantly increasing immigration to this county, and during the past two years the demand for Rock county land has been unprecedentedly

The year 1891 was even more progressive than 1890. A magnificent crop of small grain was harvested and there was a big increase in the acreage. The demand for land was active and many substantial Illinois and Iowa farmers settled in the county during the year. The Rock County Herald of November 20, 1891, told of conditions: "During the past two years a marvelous change has been wrought in the county. A large share of the prairie land in the county—practically all in the southern part—has been brought under cultivation. New homes in large numbers have been established, groves have been planted, fences have been built, barns and granaries erected, and where but a short time ago there was nothing but bare prairie are now cultivated fields, well improved farms and comfortable homes."

Flood-tide was reached in 1892. Greater progress was made that year than in any single twelve-month in the previous history of the county.¹¹ The assessed valuation reached \$3,060,897, which was nearly a half million dollars more than that of 1891.

A severe wind and hail storm brought destruction and damage to crops in a narrow strip of country in the southern part of the county on the afternoon of June 20, 1892. The storm brought death to Mrs. Ole Nelson Toppol and serious injury to her two year old daughter. The family resided six miles northwest of

active. Well-to-do farmers have sold their high priced farms in eastern states, and have bought better land in this county at prices which have made the change a very profitable and advantageous one. Others with less means have bought farms in this section by making a small first payment, and in many cases have paid for the land from the proceeds of a single crop.

"The improvements made in the county at large and its several trading points during the past two years, and particularly during the present year, would be a source of wonder to those who might visit the county after an absence of a few years. . . . Everywhere an appearance of thrift, enterprise and prosperity—the best possible evidence of the fertility of our soil and the value of our farming lands—is apparent."—Rock County Herald, December 25, 1892.

Hills. The tempest began its work in Rock county at the village of Manley, where nearly every building was wrecked. From that point the storm passed to the southeast through portions of Martin, Clinton and Kanaranzi townships.

Prosperous times continued up to the summer of 1893. Then came the memorable panic and a few years of hard times. Several firms failed, business was for a time paralyzed, and a period of dull times set in, which was not entirely broken until the late nineties.¹² The depression was not so keenly felt in Rock county, however, as it was in many of the less favored portions of the country. The panic was preceded by several years of flourishing times. Everybody had prospered and was in a position to weather the financial crash and its resulting period of depression.

Adding to the severity of the times, in 1894 came the first Rock county crop failure since grasshopper days. This was caused by drought. To supply seed grain to those who would be unable to purchase, the legislature appropriated a sum of money. Rock county applicants asked for \$2,240.10 worth of seed, and the amount was received the following March. Hard times in the midst of plenty summarized the record for 1895. No previous year was more richly blessed by the generosity of nature, and yet the cry of hard times was more frequently heard than in either of the two preceding years. The harvest was of unusual bounty and under normal conditions would have placed the people of Rock county in comfortable circumstances, but the prices for grain were hardly sufficient to pay for threshing and hauling to market.

The several precincts had population as follows in 1895:

Battle Plain	430
Beaver Creek Township.....	733
Beaver Creek Village.....	175
Clinton	594
Denver	505
Kanaranzi	473
Luverne Township	435
Luverne Village	1890
Magnolia	543
Martin	862
Hills	195
Mound	421
Rose Dell	452
Springwater	578
Vienna	311
Total	8,597

An event of the year 1896 was a heavy rain storm and flood on June 6. The storm took the nature of a cloudburst, 6.51 inches of water falling in one day. Crops were damaged in the low places and all the railroads entering Rock county suffered serious damage by washouts.

A destructive hail storm visited portions of Rock county July 29, 1897, and brought big losses to farmers by reason of damage to crops. Great areas of growing fields in Springwater and Beaver Creek townships and smaller areas in Luverne, Clinton and Vienna townships were swept bare by the destructive element. Many fields were so badly damaged that they were abandoned entirely.

In 1898 Rock county furnished a company of soldiers, who took part in the Spanish-American war, serving a little less than ten months within the United States. A few months before the breaking out of hostilities a militia company at Luverne had been mustered out of the service, and, the adjutant general having refused to consider the request for its re-enlistment, the company organized for the war was purely volunteer, although it contained many former members of the militia.¹³ The volunteers perfected an organization June 6, 1898, when they elect-

known in the county."—Rock County Herald, December 29, 1893.

¹²There has been a change since the splendid record of 1892 was made, and the conditions this year have not been favorable to the encouragement of enterprise and improvement. As a matter of fact, the year just closing will go down in history as one of the hardest ever

¹³A reserve militia company was mustered in at Luverne by Colonel Joseph Bobletter March 10, 1886, with the following members: W. H.

ed L. S. Nelson, captain; Frank Ferguson, first lieutenant; and William E. Preston, second lieutenant.¹⁴

President McKinley made his second call for volunteers May 25, but owing to the necessity of recruiting the skeleton companies of the former Minnesota regiments, the troops waiting to respond were not mustered in at once. Finally, Governor Clough issued the long-awaited orders for the mobilization of the Fifteenth Minnesota regiment, and on July 6 the Rock county company departed for St. Paul. There was a big demonstration at Luverne when the company took its departure.

The Fifteenth Minnesota regiment, of which the Rock county company became company G, was mustered into the United States service July 18. The company and regiment were stationed at Camps Ramsey and Snelling, near St. Paul, until September 15. During that time the regiment went through a fearful typhoid fever epidemic, when many men of company G were ill with the disease, resulting in several deaths in the company and others in the regiment. From Minnesota the regiment went to Camp Meade, near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, where it was assigned to the third brigade of the first division of the second army corps. There it remained until November 15, when the regiment was transferred to Camp McKenzie, near Augusta, Georgia. The regiment and company were mustered out at that camp March 27, 1899. Following is the roster of the company at the time of mustering out, with the rank of the

soldier at that time and his place of residence as given in the original muster roll:

COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

Louis S. Nelson (captain), Luverne.
Frank Ferguson (first lieutenant), Magnolia.
George W. Eckles (second lieutenant), St. Paul.

SERGEANTS

William E. Preston (first sergeant), Luverne.
George P. Jones (quartermaster sergeant), Luverne.
Mathias Baldwin, Sherman, South Dakota.
George A. Otis, St. Paul.
Charles J. Becklund, St. Paul.
Charles J. Solberg, Luverne.

CORPORALS

John H. McMillan, Luverne.
Roy Ollson, Magnolia.
George E. Munch, Edgerton.
John W. Mueller, Luverne.
Markus M. Chatfield, Kanaranzi.
Frank Irvine, Luverne.
Frank M. McKenzie, Redfield, Iowa.
Walter H. Snook, Luverne.
Harry D. Ayer, Luverne.
John M. McCormick, Graceville.
John H. May, Keokuk, Iowa.
Emil Reddel, Aitkin.
Dale R. Terrill, Edgerton.
Ovey V. Shippey (musician), Alexandria.
William Niederberger (musician), Magnolia.
Patrick Miller (artificer), St. Paul.
Luther J. Bush (wagoner), Kanaranzi.

PRIVATEs

Halvor Arneson, Luverne.
Frank E. Barclay, Magnolia.
H. Delos Barnard, Chandler.
Edward H. Bauer, St. Paul.
Nick Bergerson, Luverne.
William W. Birmingham, East Grand Forks.
Hiram Brewster, Vassar, Michigan.
Chauncey A. Campbell, Pine Island.
Guy C. Chatfield, Kanaranzi.
Carl E. Dahl, Luverne.

Halbert, captain; P. E. Brown, first lieutenant; J. W. Gerber, second lieutenant; E. S. Warner, S. B. Nelson, A. L. Stoughton, Thomas J. McDermott, Edgar S. Knowles, George W. Baker, H. W. Helm, W. S. Bronson, O. L. Varney, P. Peteler, John Kelley, Fred E. Henton, S. S. Walters, W. J. Jones, Jens E. Billington, C. O. Hawes, E. K. Rogness, K. K. Rogness.

This company became company F, of the Third regiment, M. N. G., the following year and maintained its organization until it was mustered out in May, 1889. A new company was at once organized and adopted the title "Luverne Guards." The Guards became F com-

pany, of the Third regiment, again May 9, 1891, when forty-three men were mustered in by Lieutenant C. A. Van Duzee. Later the local company became company H, of the Second regiment, and maintained its organization, excepting a short lapse in 1894, until it was finally mustered out of the service in January, 1898.

¹⁴Governor Clough reserved the appointment of second lieutenant, and when the troops were mustered in Mr. Preston was made first sergeant.

William A. Downs, Alexandria.
 John M. Duell, St. Paul.
 Joseph P. Dwyer, Graceville.
 Henry C. Eickmann, Alexandria.
 George Iveland, Luverne.
 George A. Fish, Alexandria.
 John A. Gant, Magnolia.
 Frank Gould, Des Moines, Iowa.
 Edward Groot, Rock Elm, Wisconsin.
 Frederick J. Hobert, Chicago, Illinois.
 Aksel Hofgaard, Edgerton.
 Axtel P. Holstein, Minneapolis.
 Carl Hoven, Luverne.
 George W. Humphrey, Nevada, Missouri.
 Teeter Johnson, Ashcreek.
 Joseph E. Jones, Luverne.
 Daniel Kelly, St. Paul.
 Daniel J. Kelly, St. Paul.
 Jeremiah, Kelly, St. Paul.
 Carl J. King, Alexandria.
 Ingebrit G. Klungness, Beaver Creek.
 Herman A. Kreuger, Cottage Grove.
 Edward P. Lampman, Alexandria.
 Frank L. Lampman, Alexandria.
 Alexander G. Lundquest, Luverne.
 Charles J. Lundquest, Luverne.
 Thomas McLean, St. Paul.
 Michael Naylor, Adrian.
 Herman Oestreich, Hardwick.
 Carl J. Olson, Minneapolis.
 Ole M. Oleson, Luverne.
 William N. Olson, Willmar.
 Christian Peterson, Steel Center.
 Anton Peterson, St. Paul.
 Nick Peterson, Audubon.
 Charles Pickett, Magnolia.
 William D. Pickett, Edgerton.
 Scott G. Rogers, Luverne.
 Olof B. Running, Beaver Creek.
 Lee Rutter, Ashcreek.
 Eugene E. Scott, Luverne.
 Tonguin Senum, Fosston.
 George W. Shurr, Kanaranzi.
 Bendick P. Shuros, Highlandville, Iowa.
 Samuel Simpkins, Luverne.
 Harry H. Snook, Luverne.
 Steve Stephens, Luverne.
 Louis Sustacek, Havana.
 Nick Sward, Nelson Station.
 William A. Swenemson, Graceville.
 Martin Severson, Highland, Wisconsin.
 Henry Smuser, Luverne.
 Chris Thorsen, Luverne.
 Warner Townsend, Magnolia.
 Adolph Tshudden, Edgerton.
 Albert E. Vance, Winona.

William J. Welsh, Graceville.
 Harry N. Willett, Luverne.
 Wilmot O. Wilson, Browns Valley.
 John B. Wood, Luverne.
 Guy B. Woodle, Luverne.
 Joseph E. Zikmund, St. Paul.¹⁵

After a few years of hard times following the panic of 1893, Rock county entered upon a prosperous era. During the years 1897 to 1902, inclusive, excellent crops were the rule, and hundreds of new settlers came to share in the bounteous times. Land values jumped several hundred per cent. It was a time of unprecedented prosperity. Said the Rock County Herald June 14, 1901: "A half decade of prosperous years, with good crops and good prices, has generously supplied the current wants of producers and left a surplus that is being employed in improvements and development. The expenditures now being made clearly indicate a firm confidence in the permanency of the present pleasing conditions." In 1900 the county had a population of 9668.¹⁶

Rock county's last railroad was built in 1900, and as a result the village of Kenneth was founded. The extension of the Burlington road (now the Rock Island) from Worthington to Hardwick was begun in the fall of 1899, and in December of that year the road was completed to the new town of Wilmont and train service was established. The surveyed line through Rock county was made in October, 1899, and the following March construction was begun westward from Wilmont. The track was completed to Hardwick June 26, 1900, and the event was properly celebrated in the village.

¹⁵ Company sustained losses as follows: Sergeant Severt O. Nelson, of Luverne, died September 15, 1898; Corporal Ove C. H. Knudtson, of Luverne, died August 27, 1898; Corporal Godfrey Zimmerman, of St. Paul, died September 21, 1898; Frederick D. Christian, of Kanaranzi, died October 22, 1898; William H. Dinnevy, of Little Falls, died September 12, 1898; William J. Kenney died August 25, 1898; William W. Blaker, of St. Paul, was discharged October 22, 1898, by order of the secretary of war; George H. Crossman, of Beaver Creek, was transferred to the signal corps January 20, 1899; Ernest Wood, of Walker, was transferred

to company C July 31, 1898; Thomas J. Noonan, of Prior Lake, deserted August 29, 1898; William Williams, of Cleveland, Ohio, deserted July 19, 1898.

¹⁶ Distributed as follows: Battle Plain, 464; Beaver Creek township, 736; Beaver Creek village, 186; Clinton, 624; Denver, 441; Hardwick, 259; Jasper village (in Rock county), 112; Kanaranzi, 512; Luverne township, 454; Luverne village, 2223; Magnolia township, 363; Magnolia village, 176; Martin (including Hills), 1168; Mound, 449; Rose Dell, 543; Springwater, 580; Vienna, 378.

The Rock county jail and sheriff's residence was erected in 1900. The board of county commissioners accepted the plans of W. E. E. Greene February 1, and on May 4 the contracts for the erection of the building, the cells and heating plant, the total contract price being \$15,726, were signed. The building was accepted by the county board December 1, 1900.

The year 1903 brought an interruption to the long series of big crop productions. This was caused by the most destructive hail storm in the county's history, which occurred July 20. The storm extended from near Watertown, South Dakota, in a southeasterly direction to southern Iowa, passing through Pipestone county, the eastern part of Rock and the western part of Nobles counties. Along this part of its course it was about fifteen miles wide.

The storm continued only ten minutes, but during that time it brought a loss of fully one million dollars to Rock county. Every crop in the path of the storm was absolutely wiped out. Of the corn nothing was left except the roots, and trees were stripped bare of foliage. In the townships of Battle Plain, Vienna, Magnolia and Kanaranzi the loss was almost

total, it being reported that thirty-five sections in Magnolia township were entirely laid waste. In parts of Denver, Mound and Luverne townships the damage was also great. In Rock county 120 sections of crop were made worthless.

The hail storm was only a temporary check. The consideration for land purchased in Rock county during 1904 was over three-quarters of a million dollars. The census of 1905 showed a population of 9729.¹⁷

The last few years of Rock county's history have, indeed, been prosperous ones. It has developed into the richest agricultural county in the state of Minnesota. The seasons of excessive rainfall, which brought disaster to many of the neighboring counties during the past few years, only made Rock county crops the more prolific. Bountiful crops and good prices prevail. Land values at the present writing (1911) are the highest they have ever been, several sales at \$130 per acre having been made in 1910. The federal census of 1910 gave Rock county a population of 10,222, the largest in its history.¹⁸ The assessed valuation of the county in 1910 was \$1,261,415, an increase of more than one million dollars over 1909.¹⁹

¹⁷By precincts as follows: Battle Plain, 435; Beaver Creek township, 694; Beaver Creek village, 202; Clinton, 614; Denver, 439; Hardwick, 269; Hills, 320; Jasper (in Rock county), 99; Kanaranzi, 512; Luverne township, 457; Luverne city, 2272; Magnolia township, 343; Magnolia village, 196; Martin, 837; Mound, 461; Rose Dell, 537; Springwater, 615; Vienna, 427.

¹⁸A summary of census returns discloses the fact that since permanent settlement began each five year period has shown an increase

in population in Rock county. The figures for the several enumerations are as follows: 1860, 23; 1865, 0; 1870, 138; 1875, 1750; 1880, 3669; 1885, 5239; 1890, 6817; 1895, 8597; 1900, 9668; 1905, 9729; 1910, 10,222.

¹⁹Of the total valuation, \$6,272,309 was on real property and \$989,106 on personal property; of the real property valuation, \$783,747 was on real estate in incorporated villages and \$5,488,562 on farm lands. The taxes to be collected from this assessment are \$162,416.08.

CHAPTER VIII.

POLITICAL—1870-1911.

BEFORE taking up the political history of Rock county, let us resume briefly the story of events that led up to the organization of the county. Rock county, it will be remembered, was created by legislative act in May, 1857, but was a political division in name only until many years later. In the fall of 1869 the pioneer settlers petitioned the legislature to authorize the organization of the county, and the legislature, on March 5, 1870, gave the necessary permission. Under instructions from Governor Horace Austin, on September 1, 1870, J. F. Shoemaker, Jonathan Phelps and Amos Estey selected Luverne as the seat of government of the new county, and on September 24 Governor Austin issued a proclamation declaring Rock county organized and naming Daniel Wilmot, H. A. Gregory and Abraham McMurphy county commissioners, with authority to bring about the organization and make provision for holding the first election the following November. The first meeting of the commissioners was held at the home of H. A. Gregory October 17.

At the initial meeting the commissioners divided the county into voting precincts for the election of November 8, and appointed judges of election as follows: District No. 1, E. N. Darling,

J. F. Shoemaker and E. S. Gregory, (polling place at the home of E. S. Gregory); district No. 2, M. C. Smith, Jonathan C. Phelps and J. C. Gregory (polling place at the home of J. C. Gregory); district No. 3, John H. Ferguson, Frank S. Mason and A. B. Thompson (polling place at the home of John H. Ferguson).

Office holding was not in style in 1870, and there was no scramble for the honor of being the first officers of Rock county. In fact, a number of those elected did not take kindly to the unsolicited honor and only after much persuasion consented to qualify. Party politics did not enter into the question of selecting local officers and no conventions were held. As a matter of fact, all the voters were republicans and it would have been a hard matter to start an argument on national issues. As there were no regularly selected nominees, there were no ballots, each voter casting a ballot of his own manufacture for his own candidates. Thirty-four votes were cast, which included the vote of every citizen of Rock county, with the exception of C. Jones, who was absent at the time. The following gentlemen constituted a part of the poll list: Jonathan C. Phelps, Amos Estey, Daniel Wilmot, James Shawver, Abraham McMurphy, M. C. Smith, P. J. Kniss,

George W. Kniss, Edwin Gillham, Lee Whitsell, Philo Hawes, George W. Blasdell, E. N. Darling, Sylvester Norton, J. H. Ferguson, L. B. McCollum, Ed. McKenzie, J. F. Shoemaker, Ezra Rice, S. D. Gregory, H. C. Gregory and J. C. Gregory. The result of the balloting for congressman and legislative officers was as follows:

¹From the time of the admission of Minnesota to statehood until 1881, Rock county was part of the first congressional district. During that period the representation in congress was as follows:

J. M. Cavanaugh (dem), May 12, 1858, to March 4, 1859.

William Windom (rep), March 4, 1859, to March 4, 1869.

Morton S. Wilkinson (rep), March 4, 1869, to March 4, 1871.

Mark H. Dunnell (rep), March 4, 1871, to March 4, 1883.

By the apportionment of 1881 Rock county became a part of the second district, which has been represented as follows:

J. B. Wakefield (rep), March 4, 1883, to March 4, 1887.

John Lind (rep), March 4, 1887, to March 4, 1893.

James T. McCleary (rep), March 4, 1893, to March 4, 1907.

W. S. Hammond (dem), March 4, 1907, to March 4, 1913.

²The constitution of the state of Minnesota, adopted in 1857, provided that the counties of Nicollet and Brown (in the latter was included the present Rock and Pipestone counties) should form the seventeenth legislative district, entitled to one senator and three representatives. This apportionment was in force until 1860. Under it the district was represented as follows:

1857-58—Senate, Thomas Cowan; house, Ephraim Pierce, Albert Tuttle, Frederick Rehfeld.

1859-60—Senate, Thomas Cowan; house, John Armstrong, Frederick Rehfeld, W. Pfander.

By the legislative apportionment of 1860, the counties of Faribault, Jackson, Cottonwood, Nobles, Pipestone, Rock and a part of Brown were made to form the twentieth district, entitled to one senator and one member of the house. The district was so constituted until 1866 and was represented by the following legislators:

1861—Senate, Guy K. Cleveland; house, A. Strecker.

1862—Senate, Guy K. Cleveland; house, B. O. Kempfer.

1863—Senate, D. G. Shillock; house, J. B. Wakefield.

1864—Senate, D. G. Shillock; house, J. A. Latimer.

1865—Senate, D. G. Shillock; house, J. A. Klester.

1866—Senate, D. G. Shillock; house, J. B. Wakefield.

In 1868 district No. 20 was changed to include Faribault, Martin, Jackson, Murray, Pipestone and Rock (Nobles county was not named in this apportionment, but it was doubtless intended that it should be a part of the district). District No. 20 was entitled to one senator and one representative. The apportionment was in force until 1871. Under it the district was represented as follows:

1867—Senate, J. B. Wakefield; house, A. Andrews.

1868—Senate, J. B. Wakefield; house, A. B. Coulton.

1869—Senate, J. B. Wakefield; house, J. W. Hunter.

1870—Senate, J. A. Latimer; house, M. E. L. Shanks.

Congressman—Mark H. Dunnell (rep), 31; Daniel Buck (dem), 0.

Senator—G. W. Whallon (rep), 29; C. W. Thompson (dem), 5.

Representative—George C. Chamberlin (rep), 32; A. L. Patchin (dem), 2.

The county officers chosen at the election in November, 1870, and the first to serve as such were as follows:

1871—Senate, C. W. Thompson; house, A. L. Patchin.

The legislature of 1871 reapportioned the state into legislative districts. Rock county became a part of the thirty-eighth, the other counties comprising the district being Martin, Jackson, Nobles, Watonwan, Cottonwood, Murray and Pipestone. The district was entitled to one senator and three members of the house. The senator was elected from the district at large. Martin county was entitled to one representative, Watonwan to one, and the rest of the district to the other. Under this apportionment the district was represented in the several legislatures as follows:

1872—Senate, William D. Rice; house, E. Berry, W. W. Murphy, G. C. Chamberlin.

1873—Senate, William D. Rice; house, J. W. Seager, Edwin Berry, Stephen Miller.

1874—Senate, E. P. Freeman; house, J. F. Daniels, Ole O. How, N. H. Manning.

1875—Senate, E. P. Freeman; house, Charles F. Crosby, E. Berry, Thomas Rutledge.

1876—Senate, I. P. Durfee; house, J. A. Everett, Lee Hensley, W. H. Mellen.

1877—Senate, I. P. Durfee; house, H. N. Rice, Lee Hensley, Christopher H. Smith.

1878—Senate, Christopher H. Smith; house, Frank A. Day, L. H. Bishop, Alex Fiddes.

1879—Senate, A. D. Perkins; house, M. E. L. Shanks, T. Lambert, P. J. Kniss.

1881—Senate, A. D. Perkins; house, J. A. Armstrong, W. D. Rice, P. J. Kniss.

A new apportionment was made in 1881, under which Nobles, Murray, Rock and Pipestone counties were made to form the seventh district, entitled to one senator and two representatives. In 1889 one more representative was given to the district. The seventh district was represented in the Minnesota legislatures as follows:

1883—Senate, A. M. Crosby; house, W. H. Johnson, W. O. Crawford.

1885—Senate, A. M. Crosby; house, Peter Peterson, W. B. Brown.

1887—Senate, W. B. Brown; house, J. F. Shoemaker, B. M. Low.

1889—Same as 1887.

1891—Senate, Jay LaDue; house, Larned Coburn, William Lockwood, Patrick Gildea.

1893—Senate, Jay LaDue; house, Daniel Shell, William Lockwood, Ole O. Holmen.

1895—Senate, H. J. Miller; house, Daniel Shell, William Lockwood, Ole O. Holmen.

1897—Senate, H. J. Miller; house, Daniel Shell, Ole O. Holmen, A. S. Dyer.

In 1897 Rock and Pipestone counties were made one district, the sixteenth, entitled to one senator and one representative. This apportionment is still in force. The district has been represented as follows:

1899—Senate, H. J. Miller; house, A. S. Dyer.

1901—Senate, H. J. Miller; house, J. H. Nichols.

1903—Senate, J. H. Nichols; house, Niels Jacobson.

1905—Senate, J. H. Nichols; house, Niels Jacobson.

1907—Senate, E. H. Canfield; house, Harrison White.

1909—Senate, E. H. Canfield; house, S. B. Duea.

1911—Senate, S. B. Duea; house, Harrison White.

Ed. McKenzie, auditor.³

J. F. Shoemaker, treasurer.

S. D. Gregory, sheriff.

John H. Ferguson, register of deeds.

Jonathan C. Phelps,⁴ judge of probate.

L. B. McCollum, attorney.

H. A. Gregory, clerk of court.

Amos E. Estey, court commissioner.

Jonathan C. Phelps,⁵ coroner.

P. J. Kniss, surveyor.

E. N. Darling, commissioner first district.⁶

Philo Hawes,⁷ commissioner second district.

L. B. McCollum, commissioner third district.

H. G. Gregory, justice of the peace.

G. H. Plum, constable.

T. J. Clark, constable.⁸

On January 7, 1871, the newly elected board of county commissioners met and organized, the other officers chosen in November took the oaths of office the same day, and Rock county was fully organized.

At the general election in 1871 the total vote was increased to fifty-six. The result for governor and legislative candidates was as follows:

Governor—Horace Austin (rep), 56; Winthrop Young (dem), 0.⁹

Senator—William D. Rice (rep), 52; C. C. Sylvester (dem), 4.

³The salary of the auditor of Rock county for the year 1871 was \$100.

⁴Did not qualify.

⁵Did not qualify.

⁶At the meeting of Rock county's first law making body, on October 17, 1870, the county was divided into three commissioner districts, as follows: No. 1, all that part of the county north of an east and west line passing just to the north of the present business section of Luverne; No. 2, a strip of territory across Rock county nine miles wide, extending from the southern boundary of district No. 1 to within two miles of the Iowa line; No. 3, a strip of country two miles wide along the southern boundary.

⁷Was chairman during 1871, 1872 and 1873.

⁸In the early days the office of county superintendent of schools was filled by appointment. J. H. Loomis received the appointment February 15, 1871, and served several years. His salary for the year 1871 was \$5; in 1872 he received \$25 for his services.

Representative—George C. Chamberlin (rep), 56; O. Nason (dem), 0.

The only county officer chosen in 1871 was H. A. Gregory, who became county commissioner from the first district, succeeding E. N. Darling.¹⁰

The vote was increased to 186 in 1872. The county was found to be still thoroughly republican. The vote for president, congressman and representative:

President—U. S. Grant (rep); 168; Horace Greeley (dem), 16.

Congressman—Mark H. Dunnell (rep), 171; Morton S. Wilkinson (dem), 5.

Representative—Stephen Miller (rep), 184; H. Anderson (dem), 2.

The county officers elected were as follows: Ed. McKenzie, auditor; J. F. Shoemaker, treasurer; James A. Rice,¹¹ sheriff; E. C. Abbott, register of deeds; C. F. Crosby, judge of probate; W. O. Crawford,¹² attorney; J. H. Loomis,¹³ coroner; P. J. Kniss, surveyor; J. A. Forbes,¹⁴ commissioner first district; Philo Hawes,¹⁵ commissioner second district; L. B. McCollum, commissioner third district.

The election of 1873 found 231 voters exercising their franchise. The result of the election:

Governor—C. K. Davis (rep), 204; Ara Barton (dem), 15; Samuel Mayall (temperance), 12.

Senator—E. P. Freeman (rep), 226.

⁹Below governor, the nominees on the republican state ticket received 52 votes, the democratic nominees, 4.

¹⁰Mr. Gregory served as commissioner several years. He was chairman from January to October, 1874. His place on the board was filled by the appointment of C. A. Reynolds October 21, 1874. Mr. Reynolds was chairman during the rest of 1874 and in 1875, 1876 and 1877.

¹¹Died September 27, 1873, and his successor elected in November.

¹²Did not qualify. C. F. Crosby appointed March 17, 1874.

¹³Did not qualify. L. A. Daniels appointed January 15, 1873.

¹⁴Did not qualify. H. A. Gregory continued to hold the office.

¹⁵Resigned in January, 1874. B. S. Wold appointed January 31, 1874. He served as chairman for a few months in the fall of 1874.

Representative—N. H. Manning (rep), 223; Warren Smith (peo), 8.

Sheriff—Ezra Rice (rep), 230.

Clerk of Court—George W. Kniss (rep), 111; H. A. Gregory (ind), 120.

Court Commissioner—E. D. Hadley (rep), 225.

Commissioner Third District—L. B. McCollum (rep), 9; J. H. Ferguson (ind), 14.

In 1874 Mark H. Dunnell, republican, received 355 votes for congressman against 37 for F. H. Waite, the anti-monopoly nominee. For representative, C. F. Crosby, republican, received 386 votes, while his opponent, L. Aldrich, on the anti-monopoly ticket, received not one. D. A. Dickinson, republican, for judge of the district court, secured a majority of 328 over his anti-monopoly opponent, Daniel Buck. The following county officers were elected: Frank Howard, auditor; J. F. Shoemaker, treasurer; Ezra Rice, sheriff; Robert Herren, register of deeds; E. D. Hadley, judge of probate and attorney; J. O. Helgeson, clerk of court; C. A. Reynolds, commissioner first district; E. T. Sheldon, commissioner second district. The total vote was 392.

Not a great deal of interest was taken in the election of 1875 and only 170 votes were polled. For governor, John S. Pillsbury, republican, received 167 votes to 3 for his democratic opponent, D. L. Buell. For senator, I. P. Durfee, republican, secured a majority of 160 over G. S. Thompson, reform. For representative, W. H. Mellen, republican, had a plurality of 127 over E. L. Brownell, reform. P. J. Kniss¹⁶ was elected commissioner from the second district and Niels Jacobson from the third.¹⁷

During the entire early history of Rock county the republican was the only party

that maintained an organization, but that fact did not prevent it from having frequent and strong opposition in local politics. In nearly every campaign there were many independent candidates or a "peoples" ticket, which occasionally wrested the management of county affairs from the republicans. In 1876 there was a well organized bolt. Those who refused their support to the republican ticket alleged that the nominating convention was controlled largely by democrats and that old feuds and jealousies had been a determining factor in the choice of nominees. There were independent candidates for nearly all the offices and the campaign was an exciting one, filled with personal abuse. The total vote was 587. Rutherford B. Hayes carried the county over Samuel J. Tilden by a vote of 518 to 69. For congressman, Mark H. Dunnell, republican, secured a plurality over E. C. Stacy, democrat, and for representative, C. H. Smith, republican, carried the county over B. N. Carrier, independent. The result for county officers was as follows:

Auditor—W. O. Crawford (rep), 290; Frank Howard (ind), 284.

Treasurer—George Anderson (rep), 244; J. F. Shoemaker (ind), 235; Niels Jacobson (ind), 59; Joseph Knight (ind), 35.

Sheriff—Ezra Rice (rep), elected.

Register of Deeds—H. A. Twange (rep), 226; W. H. Halbert (ind), 350.

Judge of Probate—E. D. Hadley (rep), 409; M. Webber (ind), 27.

Attorney—M. Webber (rep), 399; E. D. Hadley (ind), 172.

Coroner—Charles Williams (rep), 577.

Surveyor—P. J. Kniss (rep), 187; H. E. Herren (ind), 378.

Commissioner Third District—George

districts as follows: No. 1, the north half of the county; No. 2, the townships of Laverne, Magnolia and Beaver Creek; No. 3, the townships of Martin, Clinton and Kanarauzi.

¹⁶Was chairman in 1878.

¹⁷The county board, on July 28, 1875, redistricted the county, making the commissioner

H. Olds (rep), 11; William McKay¹⁸ (ind), 132.

The campaign of 1877 was a tame affair. Only a few local officers were chosen and the vote was light. J. H. Loomis as an independent candidate defeated E. L. Grout, the republican nominee for superintendent of schools, the office having become an elective one. Nels Atleson,¹⁹ independent, defeated C. A. Reynolds, republican, for commissioner from the first district.

Differing greatly from it was the campaign of 1878. An opposition ticket, labeled "peoples," was put in nomination October 12, and a most animated campaign followed, resulting in a victory for the republican ticket, with a few exceptions. Eight hundred seventy-four votes were polled. The result:

Congressman—Mark H. Dunnell (rep), 668; William Meighen (dem), 206.

Senator—A. D. Perkins (rep), 662; William V. King (greenback), 163.

Representative—P. J. Kniss (rep), 334; J. H. Brooks (greenback), 238; scattering, 15.

Auditor—W. O. Crawford (rep), 530; R. Herren (peo), 289.

Treasurer—Goodman Anderson (rep), 536; J. F. Shoemaker (peo), 284.

Sheriff—Edwin Gillham (rep), 384; S. D. Sprague (peo), 103; D. G. Shell (ind), 333.

Register of Deeds—W. H. Halbert (rep), 591; Q. Loveland (ind), 234.

Judge of Probate—W. N. Davidson (rep), 522; A. L. Marsh (peo), 288.

Attorney—M. Webber (rep), 527; E. D. Hadley (peo), 183.

Clerk of Court—N. R. Reynolds (rep), 375; J. O. Helgeson (ind), 441.

Court Commissioner—M. Webber (rep), 321; E. D. Hadley (peo), 487.

Coroner—Frank Howard (rep), 315; Alex. McNab²⁰ (peo), 400.

Surveyor—H. E. Herren (rep-peo), 808.

Commissioner Second District—James Marshall (rep),²¹ 195; A. Erickson (peo), 192.

As usual in the "off" years, the election of 1879 was not punctuated by violent outbreaks of enthusiasm and the vote cast was only 444. Following was the vote as canvassed:

Governor—John S. Pillsbury (rep), 366; Edmund Rice (dem), 78.

Superintendent of Schools—R. O. Crawford (rep), 259; J. H. Loomis (ind), 185.

Court Commissioner—N. R. Reynolds (rep), 368; W. E. Vary (ind), 73.

Coroner—M. Sullivan²² (rep), 441.

Commissioner First District—P. O. Skyberg²³ (rep), 111.

For the first time in the county's history, in 1880 the democrats as a party decided to enter the field of local politics. A convention was held at Luverne October 19, when it was decided not to place a democratic ticket, labeled as such, in the field, but to join with the voters who were opposed to the controlling power in the republican party and hold an "anti-ring" convention. This was done, and on October 25 a county ticket, labeled "peoples," was put in nomination. In the election which followed the republicans were entirely successful. The vote cast was 824. Following was the vote received by each candidate:

President—James A. Garfield (rep),

¹⁸Was chairman in 1879.

¹⁹Was chairman in 1880.

²⁰Did not qualify and R. A. Gove appointed May 21, 1879. He resigned December 27, 1879, and M. Sullivan was then appointed.

²¹Was chairman in 1881.

²²Resigned May 24, 1880, and A. E. Spalding appointed.

²³Was chairman in 1882.

653; Winfield S. Hancock (dem), 165; James B. Weaver (greenback), 3.

Congressman—Mark H. Dunnell (rep), 416; H. R. Wells (dem), 160; W. G. Ward (ind), 45; C. H. Roberts (greenback), 3.

Representative—P. J. Kniss (rep), 155; M. A. Strong (peo), 22.

Auditor—W. O. Crawford (rep), 601; C. S. Bruce (peo), 213.

Treasurer—Goodman Anderson (rep), 189; A. Erickson (peo), 115; J. M. Grant, 150.

Sheriff—Edwin Gillham (rep), 619; B. S. Wold (peo), 131.

Register of Deeds—W. H. Halbert (rep), 816.

Judge of Probate—N. R. Reynolds (rep), 564; W. N. Davidson (peo), 248.

Attorney—M. Webber (rep), 653; W. O. Crawford²⁴ (peo), 94; J. L. Cochran, 8.

Coroner—J. L. Helm (rep), 818.

Surveyor—H. E. Herren²⁵ (rep), 818.

Commissioner First District²⁶—George L. Cole²⁷ (rep), 103.

Commissioner Fourth District—E. D. Hadley²⁸ (rep), 192.

Commissioner Fifth District—William McKay (rep), 74; Stewart Young, 29.

While only a few county officers were chosen in 1881, the election was an exciting one because of aggressive campaigns

waged by a few of the candidates, and 613 votes were polled. The result:

Governor—Lucius F. Hubbard (rep), 497; R. W. Johnson (dem), 107; I. C. Stearns (pro), 2.

District Judge—M. J. Severance²⁹ (rep), 162.

Superintendent of Schools—C. A. Crissey (rep), 224; J. L. Helm (ind), 389.

Coroner—C. A. Mead³⁰ (rep), 594.

Commissioner First District—George L. Cole (rep), 88.

Commissioner Second District—Abram Osmun (rep), 70; A. Barck (rep³¹), 68.

Commissioner Third District—P. O. Skyberg (rep), 74.

Two complete tickets were in the field of county politics in 1882. The democrats again met in convention, only to adjourn in order to participate in the deliberations of a "citizens" convention. The latter declared that the republican convention was manipulated by a "certain local ring" and that there was "pressing necessity for an entire change in county officers." A "peoples" ticket was nominated. An exciting campaign followed, and in the election 789 votes were polled. With one exception the republicans elected every county officer. An independent carried the county for state senator, but did not carry the district. Following was the vote of 1882 as officially canvassed:

²⁴Had withdrawn his name.

²⁵Resigned July 26, 1882, and W. N. Davidson appointed.

²⁶The law provided that when a county polled 800 votes it should have five commissioners and that the county board should redistrict the county. In 1878 Rock county polled over the required number, but the commissioners did not take advantage of the law until October 7, 1880, just before the election of that year. The districts were made to include territory as follows: No. 1, Battle Plain, Denver, Rose Dell and Mound; No. 2, Beaver Creek and Springwater; No. 3, Martin and Clinton; No. 4, Luverne township and Luverne village; No. 5, Vienna, Magnolia and Kanaranzi. This apportionment was in force until 1886.

At the 1880 election commissioners should have been chosen in each of the five districts, but this was not done. James Marshall, residing in the old second district, and P. O. Skyberg, in the old third, retained their seats by virtue of former elections. Upon the beginning of a contest for the office of commis-

sioner from the second district, the matter was referred to the attorney general of Minnesota, who advised that the two hold-over commissioners resign and that their places be filled by the appointing board. Accordingly, Messrs. Marshall and Skyberg resigned in January, 1881. On the same day the appointing board, consisting of the judge of probate, auditor and register of deeds, appointed Messrs. Marshall and Skyberg to the vacancies.

²⁷Was chairman in 1884.

²⁸Was chairman in 1883.

²⁹In 1885 the sixth district was divided and Rock county became a part of the thirteenth district. A. D. Perkins was appointed judge for the new district March 14, 1885.

³⁰Did not qualify. A. E. Spalding appointed, but resigned July 26, 1882, when G. E. Bushnell received the appointment.

³¹Two republican conventions were held in the second district caused by a split and a question of authority.

Congressman—J. B. Wakefield (rep), 688; J. A. Latimer (dem), 19; Felix A. Borer (pro), 77.

Senator—A. M. Crosby³² (rep), 333; C. C. Goodnow (ind), 453.

Representative—W. O. Crawford (rep), 780.

Auditor—W. H. Halbert (rep), 480; C. R. Henton (peo), 301.

Treasurer—P. O. Skyberg (rep), 521; Niels Jacobson (peo), 262.

Sheriff—Edwin Gillham (rep), 517; P. Phinney (peo), 264.

Register of Deeds—P. F. Kelley (rep), 440; C. S. Bruce (peo), 337.

Judge of Probate—C. A. Mead (rep), 442; W. N. Davidson (peo), 341.

Attorney—N. R. Reynolds³³ (rep), 468; E. H. Canfield (peo), 305.

Clerk of Court—J. O. Helgeson (rep), 488; L. M. Larson (peo), 301.

Court Commissioner—R. M. Click (rep), 490; A. E. Patterson (peo), 289.

Coroner—George Millhouse³⁴ (rep), 467; G. E. Bushnell (peo), 254.

Surveyor—F. D. Putney³⁵ (rep), 466; C. W. Mathews (peo), 305.

Commissioner Second District—L. D. Mosher³⁶ (rep), 136.

Commissioner Third District—Ole P. Steen (rep), 38; Ben Evens (peo), 98.

The last election held in odd-numbered years was that of 1883. Four hundred fifty-eight votes were polled, with the following result:

Governor—Lucius F. Hubbard (rep), 314; Adolph Bierman (dem), 132; Charles E. Holt (pro), 12.

³²Was elected.

³³Removed from the county and January 2, 1884. W. N. Davidson appointed.

³⁴Mr. Millhouse did not qualify, and January 5, 1883, G. E. Bushnell refused the appointment. The county commissioners then appointed M. Webber and adjourned without giving that gentleman an opportunity to refuse the office. He did, however, at the first opportunity. March 1, 1883, Mr. Bushnell was again appointed and on March 20 took office.

³⁵Did not qualify and W. N. Davidson received the appointment January 5, 1883.

Superintendent of Schools—J. L. Helm (rep), 427.

Coroner—W. T. Berry³⁷ (rep), 425.

Surveyor—W. P. Hurlbut (rep), 437.

Commissioner Fourth District—M. Webber (rep), 206.

Commissioner Fifth District—P. Phinney³⁸ (ind), 29; scattering, 12.

For the first time in history, the democrats placed a ticket in the field of Rock county politics in 1884.³⁹ Nominations were made for auditor, register of deeds and sheriff; for the other offices the republican nominees were indorsed. The entire republican ticket was elected. Nine-hundred seventy-two votes were polled. The result:

President—James G. Blaine (rep), 741; Grover Cleveland (dem), 162; John P. St. John (pro), 58; Benjamin F. Butler (greenback), 10.

Congressman—J. B. Wakefield (rep), 747; J. J. Thornton (dem), 171; William Copp (pro), 54.

Representative—W. B. Brown (rep), 786; John Stuart (dem), 176.

Auditor—W. H. Halbert (rep), 786; A. C. Croft (dem), 186.

Treasurer—P. O. Skyberg (rep), 924.

Sheriff—Edwin Gillham (rep), 765; M. McCarthy (dem), 179.

Register of Deeds—P. F. Kelley (rep), 720; E. M. Erickson (dem), 238.

Judge of Probate—C. A. Mead (rep), 909.

Attorney—P. E. Brown⁴⁰ (rep), 897.

Coroner—Ole Lund (rep), 778; M. F. Battelle (dem), 181.

³⁷Was chairman in 1886.

³⁸Did not qualify and G. H. Henton appointed January 3, 1884.

³⁹Was chairman in 1885.

⁴⁰The convention was held just before the election, October 30. Robert Herren was chairman of the convention and A. L. Stoughton was secretary. Of the central committee named B. Knapp was the chairman and A. L. Stoughton, secretary.

⁴¹Resigned August 1, 1885, and E. H. Canfield appointed.

Surveyor—W. N. Davidson (rep), 917.

Commissioner First District⁴¹—George L. Cole, 93; J. F. Shoemaker, 48; J. J. Vickerman, 8.

Party lines were drawn in 1886. The republicans and democrats had complete tickets in the field, the prohibitionists a partial ticket, and there were several independent candidates, making the election an interesting one. Twelve hundred forty-one votes were cast. The prohibitionists elected their nominee for superintendent of schools; the other offices went to the republicans. The detailed vote:

Governor—A. R. McGill (rep), 839; A. A. Ames (dem), 267; James E. Child (pro), 135.

Congressman—John Lind (rep), 869; A. H. Bullis (dem), 237; George J. Day (pro), 124.

District Judge—A. D. Perkins⁴² (rep), 998.

Senator—W. B. Brown (rep), 903; Fred Bloom (ind), 184.

Representative—Philo Hawes (rep), 719; J. F. Shoemaker⁴³ (ind), 494.

Auditor—Stewart Young (rep), 426; R. E. Moreland (dem), 143; W. O. Crawford (pro), 351; C. S. Bruce (ind), 313.

Treasurer—P. O. Skyberg (rep), 1022; Andrew Erickson (dem), 194.

Sheriff—Edwin Gillham (rep), 750; James Kelley (dem), 451.

Register of Deeds—P. F. Kelley (rep), 705; Gust Nelson (dem), 515.

Judge of Probate—C. A. Mead (rep), 937.

Attorney—W. N. Davidson (rep), 1031; R. B. Hinkly (dem), 182.

⁴⁰No nominations were made.

⁴¹Resigned and P. E. Brown appointed February, 1891.

⁴²Was elected.

⁴³Was succeeded in November, 1887, by J. O. Helgeson.

⁴⁴Did not qualify and H. H. Andrews appointed January 7, 1887.

Clerk of Court—J. O. Helgeson (rep), 594; L. M. Larson (dem), 175; H. A. Twange (ind), 454.

Superintendent of Schools—J. H. Adams (rep), 470; L. M. Brock (dem), 209; Mrs. L. B. Kniss (pro), 575; E. N. Darling (ind), 167.

Court Commissioner—E. D. Hadley⁴⁴, 733; R. M. Click, 163.

Coroner—Ole Lund (rep), 692; Abram Osmun (dem), 295.

Surveyor—W. N. Davidson⁴⁵ (rep), 667; J. H. Furlow (dem), 560.

Commissioner First District⁴⁶—R. J. Cobban (rep), 130.

Commissioner Second District—C. A. Reynolds (rep), 148; L. D. Mosher (ind), 95.

Commissioner Third District—Goodman Anderson⁴⁷ (rep), 107; C. E. Halls (ind), 20; F. B. Myrick (ind), 45.

Commissioner Fourth District—M. Webber⁴⁸ (rep), 199; G. C. Huntington (dem), 84.

Commissioner Fifth District—William Maynes (rep), 172.

The total vote in 1888 reached 1419, and again there was an interesting campaign. Opposing the republican ticket were a partial democratic ticket, one prohibitionist and several independent candidates. Two of the independents were elected, and the other offices, as usual, went to the republicans. Following was the vote:

President—Benjamin Harrison (rep), 995; Grover Cleveland (dem), 325; Clinton B. Fisk (pro), 95; A. J. Streator (union labor), 4.

⁴⁵The county was redistricted July 28, 1886, and the commissioner districts made as follows: No. 1, Battle Plain, Denver, Rose Dell and Mound; No. 2, Beaver Creek township, Beaver Creek village and Springwater; No. 3, Martin and Clinton; No. 4, Luverne village; No. 5, Luverne township, Magnolia, Kanaranzi and Vienna. There has been no change in the districts since 1886.

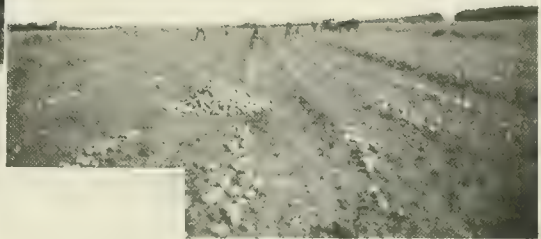
⁴⁶Was chairman in 1887.

⁴⁷Was chairman in 1888.

ROCK COUNTY SCENES



HOME OF FRED KRÉPS
• NEAR LUVERNE •



200 BUSHEL PER ACRE



• BRUCE STATION •



STORE AT BRUCE



• THE LUMBERING INDUSTRY •

Governor—William R. Merriam (rep), 982; Eugene M. Wilson (dem), 320; Hugh Harrison (pro), 101; J. H. Paul (union labor), 4.

Congressman—John Lind (rep), 993; M. S. Wilkinson (dem), 327; D. W. Edwards (pro), 96.

Representative—Harrison White (rep), 813; J. F. Shoemaker⁴⁹ (ind), 568.

Auditor—Stewart Young (rep), 1098; J. R. McDowell (dem), 291.

Treasurer—P. O. Skyberg (rep), 1088; Andrew Tollefson (ind), 288.

Sheriff—C. C. Cox (rep), 495; J. H. Furlow (dem), 319; Edwin Gillham⁵⁰ (ind), 570.

Register of Deeds—John Kelley (rep), 819; Gust Nelson (dem), 586.

Judge of Probate—A. Barck (rep), 930; C. A. Mead (ind), 462.

Attorney—E. H. Canfield (rep), 832; W. N. Davidson (ind), 548.

Superintendent of Schools—H. H. Welch (rep), 802; Mrs. L. B. Kniss (pro), 783.

Coroner—Ole Lund (rep), 1263.

Surveyor—W. W. Snook⁵¹ (rep), 1269.

Commissioner First District—R. J. Cobban⁵² (rep), 132; E. T. Thorson (ind), 86.

Commissioner Third District—Goodman Anderson (rep), 140; C. E. Halls, 56; C. H. Peterson, 68.

Commissioner Fifth District—L. L. Bryan (rep), 106; William Maynes⁵³ (ind), 159.

The election of 1890 brought a radical change in Rock county politics, caused by the entrance of the alliance forces. The campaign preceding the election was bitter and one of the most hotly contested in the history of the county. The republi-

cans and alliance forces had full tickets in the field, and many independent candidates entered the lists. The republicans carried the county for their nominees for governor, congressman, senator and representatives by small pluralities and elected auditor, treasurer, register of deeds, judge of probate, attorney, court commissioner and one county commissioner; the alliance party elected surveyor, coroner, clerk of court, superintendent of schools and one commissioner; an independent was elected sheriff. The total vote was 1386. The official abstract of the vote:

Governor—William R. Merriam (rep), 626; Thomas Wilson (dem), 238; Sidney M. Owen (all), 500; James P. Pinkham (pro), 22.

Congressman—John Lind (rep), 758; James H. Baker (all), 600; Ira Reynolds (pro), 19.

Senator—H. J. Miller (rep), 718; A. M. Becker (dem), 6; Jay LaDue⁵⁴ (all), 617.

Representatives—George W. Wilson (rep), 746; Larned Coburn (rep), 743; William Lockwood (rep), 760; C. P. Shepard (dem), 259; E. L. Rork (dem), 76; John Pemberton, (all), 557; Patrick Gildea (all), 504; C. Gustafson (all), 371.⁵⁵

Auditor—C. S. Bruce (rep), 515; J. B. Croft (all), 365; Stewart Young (ind), 213; J. H. Adams (ind), 290.

Treasurer—P. O. Skyberg (rep), 1374.

Sheriff—W. H. Jones (rep), 329; William Maynes (all), 152; J. E. Black (ind), 375; J. H. Furlow (ind), 171; Olaf J. Oestern (ind), 31; C. R. Henton (ind), 149; C. C. Cox (ind), 164.

Register of Deeds—John Kelley (rep), 859; John Boyes (all), 520.

⁴⁹Was elected.
⁵⁰Resigned August 5, 1889, and C. R. Henton was appointed.

⁵¹Was succeeded January 9, 1890, by W. N. Davidson.

⁵²Was chairman in 1890.

⁵³Was elected.

⁵⁴Messrs. Coburn, Lockwood and Gildea were elected.

Judge of Probate—A. Barck (rep), 802; E. H. Bronson (all), 572.

Attorney—E. H. Canfield (rep), 719; W. N. Davidson (all), 652.

Clerk of Court—H. A. Twange (rep), 510; Gust Nelson (all), 854.

Superintendent of Schools—H. H. Welch (rep), 799; S. S. Start (all), 808.

Court Commissioner—A. J. Daley⁵⁶ (rep), 717; Gust Nelson (all), 651.

Coroner—S. C. Plummer⁵⁷ (all), 1381.

Surveyor—W. N. Davidson⁵⁸ (all), 1379.

Commissioner Second District—J. B. Dunn (rep), 93; Jacob Merkel⁵⁹ (all), 158.

Commissioner Fourth District—M. Webber⁶⁰ (rep), 185; W. T. Gibson (all), 141.

The alliance party was succeeded by the peoples party in 1892. The new organization fused with the democrats in nominating some of the county officers, but was successful in electing only one officer. The vote polled for president was 1859. The result was as follows:

President—Benjamin Harrison (rep), 940; Grover Cleveland (dem), 383; J. B. Weaver (pp), 459; Silas Bidwell (pro), 77.

Governor—Knute Nelson (rep), 868; Daniel W. Lawler (dem), 351; Ignatius Donnelly (pp), 200; W. J. Dean (pro), 63.

Congressman—J. T. McCleary (rep), 846; W. S. Hammond (dem), 314; L. C. Long (pp), 211; E. H. Bronson (pro), 116.

Representatives—William Lockwood (rep), 900; Daniel Shell (rep), 842; Ole O. Holmen (rep), 851; Patrick Gildea (dem-pp), 505; J. H. Maxwell (dem-pp),

488; George McGillivray (dem-pp), 476.

District Judge—P. E. Brown, 1163.

Auditor—C. S. Bruce (rep), 1068; J. B. Croft (pp), 399.

Treasurer—P. O. Skyberg (rep), 1122; Th. O. Opsata (pp), 364.

Sheriff—J. E. Black (rep), 1125; C. H. Peterson (pp), 407.

Register of Deeds—John Kelley (rep), 742; John Caveny (dem-pp), 577; C. J. Fugleberg (ind), 196.

Judge of Probate—A. Barck (rep), 975; L. M. Brock (dem-pp), 540.

Attorney—E. H. Canfield (rep), 892; C. A. Mead (dem-pp), 644.

Superintendent of Schools—H. H. Welch (rep), 791; S. S. Start (dem-pp), 954.

Coroner—E. J. Sheridan (rep), 1167.

Surveyor—W. N. Davidson,⁶¹ 6.

Commissioner First District—A. M. Helgeson (rep), 161; V. H. Raymond (pp), 98.

Commissioner Third District—C. Clemetson⁶² (rep), 178; George H. Griggs (dem), 36.

Commissioner Fifth District—James Preston (rep) 75; A. H. Turner (pp), 74.

Eighteen hundred one votes were polled in Rock county in 1894. The fusion forces were not represented on the official ballot but there were independent candidates for most of the offices who received the democratic and peoples party support. Republicans were elected to all offices, with one exception. Following was the vote:

Governor—Knute Nelson (rep), 1162; George L. Becker (dem), 256; S. M. Owen (pp), 332; H. S. Hilleboe (pro), 43.

Congressman—J. T. McCleary (rep),

⁵⁶Was succeeded by J. O. Helgeson October, 1892.

⁵⁷Removed from the county and E. J. Sheridan appointed July 14, 1891.

⁵⁸Resigned January 6, 1892.

⁵⁹Was chairman in 1891.

⁶⁰Was chairman in 1892 and 1893.

⁶¹Did not qualify until October 6, 1893.

⁶²Was chairman in 1896.

1153; James H. Baker (dem), 263; L. C. Long (pp), 315; H. S. Kellam (pro), 39;

Senator—H. J. Miller (rep), 1201; J. C. Marshall (dem-pp), 588.

Representatives—Ole O. Holmen (rep), 1075; Daniel Shell (rep), 984; William Lockwood (rep), 977; J. J. Ryder (dem), 110; John E. King (dem), 252; J. T. McKnight (pp), 261; C. F. Norwood (pp), 211; A. Jaycox (pp), 416.

Auditor—C. S. Bruce (rep), 1608.

Treasurer—P. O. Skyberg (rep), 1355; Andrew K. Steen (pp), 382.

Sheriff—J. E. Black (rep), 1111; W. H. Jones (ind), 676.

Register of Deeds—John Kelley (rep), 925; J. H. Adams (ind), 846.

Judge of Probate—James Marshall (rep), 977; A. Barek (ind), 789.

Attorney—E. H. Canfield (rep), 1014; W. N. Davidson (ind), 743.

Clerk of Court—O. E. Ferguson (rep), 1086; Gust Nelson (ind), 715.

Superintendent of Schools—Ellen M. Wright (rep), 1093; S. S. Start (ind), 1039.

Court Commissioner—J. O. Helgeson (rep), 1526.

Coroner—E. J. Sheridan⁶³ (rep), 1483.

Surveyor—W. N. Davidson (rep), 1568.

Commissioner Second District—C. M. Ellithorpe (rep), 89; Jacob Merkel (ind), 99; Robert McDowell⁶⁴ (ind), 120.

Commissioner Fourth District—M. Webber⁶⁵ (rep), 385.

In 1896 the free silver issue gained many adherents in Rock county, and William Jennings Bryan, the democratic standard bearer, received a comparatively large vote, as did, also, John Lind for governor. The democratic and peo-

ples party did not join forces in 1896, but each party put forth nominees for a part of the county offices. The vote cast was 2069. The story of the election in figures:

President—William McKinley (rep), 1209; W. J. Bryan (dem-pp), 765; Levering (pro), 29; Palmer (nat-dem), 18; Matchett (soc-lab), 4.

Governor—D. M. Clough (rep), 1038; John Lind (dem-pp), 896; W. J. Dean (pro), 29; A. A. Ames (ind), 8; W. B. Hammond (soc-lab), 5.

Congressman—J. T. McCleary (rep), 1155; Frank A. Day (dem), 778; Richard Price (pro), 30.

Representatives—Ole O. Holmen (rep), 1163; Daniel Shell (rep), 1008; A. S. Dyer (rep), 983; Michael Sullivan (dem-pp), 767; F. M. Payne (dem-pp), 666; Thomas Lowe (dem-pp), 675.

Auditor—C. S. Bruce (rep), 1745.

Treasurer—P. O. Skyberg (rep), 1393; Andrew K. Steen (pp), 602.

Sheriff—J. E. Black (rep), 1132; J. H. Sanders (dem), 638; M. M. Jensen (ind), 299.

Register of Deeds—J. H. Adams (rep), 1213; T. H. McDermott (dem), 801.

Judge of Probate—James Marshall (rep), 1319; C. A. Reynolds (pp), 657.

Attorney—S. C. Rea (rep), 1090; A. Barek (pp), 881.

Superintendent of Schools—Ellen M. Wright (rep), 1650.

Coroner—J. C. Gilbertson, 58.

Surveyor—W. N. Davidson, 104.

Commissioner First District—W. J. Willyard⁶⁶ (rep), 308.

Commissioner Third District—F. B. Myrick⁶⁷ (rep), 217; C. Clemetson (dem), 119.

⁶³Was succeeded by J. C. Gilbertson January 11, 1896.

⁶⁴Was chairman in 1897.

⁶⁵Was chairman in 1895.

⁶⁶Was chairman in 1900.

⁶⁷Was chairman in 1899.

Commissioner Fifth District—L. E. Woodruff (rep), 191; Henry Rohlk⁶⁸ (dem), 222.

The off-year 1898 showed a falling off in the vote cast, the highest number for any one office being 1367. The ticket in opposition to the republican was labeled democratic and was supported by the fusion forces. The republicans made a clean sweep. Following was the vote of 1898:

Governor—W. H. Eustis (rep), 780; John Lind (dem-pp), 490; G. W. Higgins (pro), 32; W. B. Hammond (social), 3; L. C. Long (midroad pop), 39.

Congressman—J. T. McCleary (rep), 830; D. H. Evans (dem), 430; T. P. Grout (pro), 67.

District Judge—P. E. Brown, 1100.

Senator H. J. Miller (rep), 951; Joseph Willers (ind), 355.

Representative—A. S. Dyer (rep), 853; C. Cunningham (ind), 428.

Auditor—C. S. Bruce (rep), 1201.

Treasurer—P. O. Skyberg (rep), 983; C. W. Finke (dem), 371.

Sheriff—J. E. Black (rep), 819; George Hoeck (dem), 548.

Register of Deeds—J. H. Adams (rep), 1180.

Judge of Probate—James Marshall (rep), 946; E. H. Bronson, 389.

Attorney—S. C. Rea (rep), 948; Guy Huntington (dem), 377.

Clerk of Court—O. E. Ferguson (rep), 1189.

Superintendent of Schools—Ellen M. Wright (rep), 815; Mrs. F. B. M. Lemka (dem), 622; Mrs. L. B. Kniss (ind), 179.

Court Commissioner—William Bateson (rep), 61; J. O. Helgeson, 13.

Coroner—A. E. Spalding⁶⁹ (rep), 66.

⁶⁸Was chairman in 1898. Resigned February 1, 1900, and was succeeded by M. M. Chatfield.

⁶⁹Did not qualify and E. N. Sisson appointed January 7, 1899.

Surveyor—W. N. Davidson, 108.

Commissioner Second District—Abram Osmun (rep), 110; Robert McDowell (dem), 94.

Commissioner Fourth District—M. Webber⁷⁰ (rep), 226; A. P. Adams (dem), 165.

Again in 1900 the republicans made a clean sweep over the democrats, carrying the county for president, the state, congressional and legislative tickets, and electing every county officer. The highest vote recorded for any one office was 1907. The result in detail:

President—William McKinley (rep), 1234; W. J. Bryan (dem), 573; J. G. Wooley (pro), 73.

Governor—S. R. Van Sant (rep), 1075; Thomas J. Meighen (dem-pp), 696; B. B. Haugen (pro), 57.

Congressman—J. T. McCleary (rep), 1194; M. E. Matthews (dem), 604; S. D. Works (pro), 64.

Representative—J. H. Nichols (rep), 1038; S. B. Nelson (dem), 869.

Auditor—C. S. Bruce (rep), 1417; A. Rathjen (dem), 490.

Treasurer—P. O. Skyberg (rep), 1622. Sheriff—J. E. Black (rep), 1356; B. T. Kitterman (dem), 551.

Register of Deeds—J. H. Adams (rep), 1372; R. E. Moreland (dem), 529.

Judge of Probate—James Marshall (rep), 1334; J. B. Obele (dem), 541.

Attorney—E. H. Canfield (rep), 985; S. C. Rea (ind), 848.

Superintendent of Schools—Ellen M. Wright (rep), 1344; S. S. Brock (dem), 756.

Coroner—E. N. Sisson (rep), 1445.

Surveyor—W. N. Davidson,⁷¹ 89.

Commissioner First District—K. G.

⁷⁰Was chairman in 1901 and 1902.

⁷¹Resigned October 18, 1902, and H. E. Harvey appointed.

Oldre (rep), 217; J. N. Beaty (dem), 160.

Commissioner Third District—J. M. Paulsen (rep), 259; Ole P. Steen, 74.

Commissioner Fifth District—Alex Walker⁷² (rep), 187; J. B. Croft (dem), 172.

The first nominations under the provisions of the primary election law were made September 16, 1902. There were only three contests for the republican nominations and none for the democratic nominations. Following was the result for places on the republican ticket where there were more than one candidate:

Representative—Niels Jacobson, 392; Harrison White, 332.

Sheriff—J. E. Black, 573; Halvor Savold, 167.

Superintendent of Schools—Frank E. Older, 482; Ellen M. Wright, 536.

At the general election of 1902 the total vote was 1402, and every republican was again elected. According to the official canvass the vote was as follows:

Governor—S. R. Van Sant (rep), 974; L. A. Rosing (dem), 368; Thomas J. Meighen (pp), 11; Charles Scanlon (pro), 44; Thomas Van Lear (soc-lab), 4; Jay E. Nash, 1.

Congressman—J. T. McCleary (rep), 1016; C. N. Andrews (dem), 376.

Senator—J. H. Nichols (rep), 916; Jay LaDue (dem), 474.

Representative—Niels Jacobson (rep), 921; F. C. Mahoney (dem), 464.

Auditor—C. S. Bruce (rep), 1263.

Treasurer—P. O. Skyberg (rep), 1270.

Sheriff—J. E. Black (rep), 1226.

Register of Deeds—J. H. Adams (rep), 1248.

Judge of Probate—M. Webber (rep), 844; S. C. Rea (ind), 537.

Attorney—E. H. Canfield (rep), 841; W. N. Davidson (ind), 546.

Clerk of Court—O. E. Ferguson (rep), 1260.

Superintendent of Schools—Ellen M. Wright (rep), 1003; George L. Alder (ind), 795.

Court Commissioner—J. O. Helgeson, 25.

Coroner—S. J. Froshaug, 97; E. N. Sisson, 15; Dana Baer, 7.

Surveyor—H. E. Harvey,⁷³ 109; W. N. Davidson, 12.

Commissioner Second District—B. M. Pengra⁷⁴ (rep), 130; Robert McDowell (dem), 111.

Commissioner Fourth District—J. P. Houg⁷⁵ (rep), 286; W. A. McDowell (dem), 118.

There were five contests to decide in the 1904 republican primary, with the following result:

Congressman—H. J. Miller, 652; J. T. McCleary, 355.

Attorney—C. H. Christopherson, 589; J. A. Kennicott, 423.

Superintendent of Schools—Ellen M. Wright, 743; Frank Older, 724.

Commissioner First District—A. C. Finke, 185; O. G. Qualley, 76.

Commissioner Fifth District—Alex Walker, 117; John Engebretson, 89.

For the first time in its history, Rock county returned a majority for a democratic nominee for governor in 1904, John A. Johnson receiving a plurality of ninety votes over R. C. Dunn. For president Theodore Roosevelt received a record breaking vote, and all other republican nominees received substantial majorities. Fifteen hundred sixty-eight votes were cast for president. The official count gave the following results:

⁷²Was chairman in 1903.

⁷³Removed from the county and July 12, 1904 W. N. Davidson was appointed.

⁷⁴Was chairman in 1905.

⁷⁵Was chairman in 1904 and 1906.

President Theodore Roosevelt (rep), 1242; Alton B. Parker (dem), 241; Eugene Debs (po), 23; Thomas Watson (pp), 20; Swallow (pro), 42.

Governor—R. C. Dunn (rep), 695; John A. Johnson (dem), 785; Charles W. Dorsett (pro), 53; J. E. Nash (po), 5; A. W. M. Anderson (soc-lab), 7.

Congressman—J. T. McCleary (rep), 895; G. P. Jones (dem), 638.

District Judge—P. E. Brown, 1401.

Representative—Niels Jacobson (rep), 1110; John Michelsen (pro), 353.

Auditor—C. S. Bruce (rep), 1376.

Treasurer—P. O. Skyberg (rep), 1417.

Sheriff—J. E. Black (rep), 1104; A. A. Pierce (ind), 464.

Register of Deeds—J. H. Adams (rep), 1386.

Judge of Probate—M. Webber (rep), 1364.

Attorney—C. H. Christopherson (rep), 1371.

Superintendent of Schools—Ellen M. Wright (rep), 1246.

Coroner—S. J. Froshaug (rep), 1299.

Surveyor—W. N. Davidson, 35.

Commissioner First District—E. T. Thorsen⁷⁶ (rep), 164; J. F. Matthiesen (dem), 124.

Commissioner Third District—A. C. Fink⁷⁷ (rep), 281.

Commissioner Fifth District—Alex Walker (rep), 157; Thomas E. Knowlton (ind), 141.

The contests for the republican nominations in 1906 resulted as follows:

Congressman—J. T. McCleary, 185; Gilbert Gutttersen, 839.

Senator—E. H. Canfield, 900; C. W. Gilmore, 429.

Representative—Harrison White, 736; K. G. Oldre, 569.

Auditor—C. S. Bruce, 956; Otto A. Paulsen, 374.

Treasurer—P. O. Skyberg, 937; J. M. Jacobson, 432.

Sheriff—J. E. Black, 945; A. A. Pierce, 417.

Superintendent of Schools—Edia A. Headley, 1002; Peter L. Breden, 672; Ellen M. Wright, 319.

Commissioner Second District—C. H. Baldwin, 153; O. C. Jordahl, 51.

Again at the general election of 1906 John A. Johnson for governor received a majority. W. S. Hammond, democratic nominee for congress, also carried Rock county—the first and only time in the history of the county that other than the republican nominee had carried the county for congressman. On the county ticket the election went to the republicans by default, there being not one candidate in opposition. The vote was 1311, divided as follows:

Governor—A. L. Cole (rep), 549; John A. Johnson (dem), 718; Charles W. Dorsett (pro), 38; O. E. Lofthus (po), 6.

Congressman—J. T. McCleary (rep), 580; W. S. Hammond (dem), 654; David A. Tucker (pro), 48.

Senator—E. H. Canfield (rep), 1040.

Representative—Harrison White (rep), 726; John Michelsen (pro), 148.

Auditor—C. S. Bruce (rep), 1155.

Treasurer—P. O. Skyberg⁷⁸ (rep), 1164.

Sheriff—J. E. Black (rep), 1106.

Register of Deeds—J. H. Adams (rep), 1115.

Judge of Probate—M. Webber (rep), 1111.

Attorney—C. H. Christopherson (rep), 1099.

⁷⁶Was chairman in 1907.

⁷⁷Was chairman in 1908.

⁷⁸Resigned in January, 1908, and was succeeded by J. P. Hong.

Clerk of Court—O. E. Ferguson (rep), 1124.

Superintendent of Schools—Edia A. Headley (rep), 1154.

Court Commissioner—J. O. Helgeson, 18.

Coroner—S. J. Froshaug,⁷⁹ 127; E. N. Sisson, 75.

Surveyor—W. N. Davidson, 85.

Commissioner Second District—C. H. Baldwin⁸⁰ (rep), 175.

Commissioner Fourth District—J. P. Houg⁸¹ (rep), 313.

There were a few contests in the republican primary of 1908, which resulted as follows, so far as Rock county was concerned:

Congressman—Gilbert Gutterson, 561; J. T. McCleary, 290; P. A. Ewert, 134.

Representative—Harrison White, 479; S. B. Duca, 226; A. C. Finke, 295.

Register of Deeds—J. H. Adams, 720; I. M. Cady, 274.

Attorney—C. H. Christopherson, 562; A. J. Daley, 454.

Commissioner First District—E. T. Thorson, 98; Carl Wiese, 80.

Commissioner Third District—Otto A. Paulsen, 152; P. N. Steen, 99.

The election of 1908 proved another complete victory for the republicans. The total vote for presidential electors was 1833, and the vote of the several candidates was as follows:

President—W. H. Taft (rep), 1234; W. J. Bryan (dem), 526; Eugene Chafin (pro), 56; Eugene Debs (po), 17; Hisgen (independence), 4.

Governor—Jacob F. Jacobson (rep), 966; John A. Johnson (dem), 816; George D. Haggard (pro), 27; Beecher Moore (po), 4; William Wallen (independence), 2.

⁷⁹Resigned August 5, 1907, and was succeeded by E. O. Mork. The latter removed from the county and on July 13, 1908, P. D. Whyte was appointed.

⁸⁰Was chairman in 1909.

Congressman—J. T. McCleary (rep), 973; W. S. Hammond (dem), 847.

Representative—S. B. Duca (rep), 1321.

Auditor—John Kelley (rep), 1499.

Treasurer—J. P. Houg (rep), 1534.

Sheriff—J. E. Black (rep), 1567.

Register of Deeds—J. H. Adams (rep), 1543.

Judge of Probate—M. Weber (rep), 1518.

Attorney—C. H. Christopherson (rep), 1499.

Superintendent of Schools—Edia A. Headley (rep), 1547.

Coroner—T. S. Paulson 218; scattering, 144.

Surveyor—W. N. Davidson, 38.

Commissioner First District—E. T. Thorson (rep), 287.

Commissioner Third District—Otto A. Paulsen⁸² (rep), 182; C. W. Finke (ind), 163.

Commissioner Fourth District—J. A. Kennicott⁸³ (rep), 232; C. A. Reynolds (dem), 206.

Commissioner Fifth District—Charles E. Nelson (rep), 187; A. Rathjen (dem), 160.

The contests for the republican nominations in 1910 were decided as follows:

Congressman—Franklin F. Ellsworth, 641; Albert L. Ward, 392.

District Judge—L. S. Nelson, 341; Wilson Borst, 165; J. A. Town, 136; C. W. Gilmore, 136; D. A. Stuart, 70.

Senator—E. H. Canfield, 635; S. B. Duca, 440.

Representative—Harrison White, 740; William Lockwood, 279.

Treasurer—J. P. Houg, 636; W. L. Kartrude, 522.

⁸²Resigned in January, 1908, to accept office of county treasurer and was succeeded by C. A. Reynolds.

⁸³His chairman in 1911.

⁸⁴Was chairman in 1910.

Judge of Probate—M. Webber, 855; S. C. Rea, 260.

Commissioner Second District—C. H. Baldwin, 131; John P. Ingelson, 57.

For the first time since the primary law went into effect those voting the democratic ticket in 1910 had a choice between two candidates who aspired to the same office. For congress W. S. Hammond received 51 votes to 2 for Oscar M. Quigley.

At the last general election before the publication of this volume, that of November, 1910, the highest number of votes cast for the nominees of one office was for state senator, 1425 being polled.⁸⁴ The democrats carried the county for their nominees for judge of the district court and state senator; otherwise the republicans were successful, electing every county office without opposition. The vote of 1910 as officially canvassed:

Governor—A. O. Eberhart (rep), 902; James Gray (dem), 408; J. F. Heiberg (pro), 70; George E. Barrett (po), 18; C. W. Brandborg (soc-lab), 16.

Congressman—Franklin F. Ellsworth (rep), 795; W. S. Hammond⁸⁵ (dem), 598; D. A. Thayer (soc), 20.

District Judge—L. S. Nelson⁸⁶ (rep), 645; J. G. Redding (dem), 697; J. A. Cashel (ind), 66.

Senator—S. B. Duca⁸⁷ (rep), 553; S. B. Nelson (dem), 872.

Representative—Harrison White (rep), 845; W. O. Crawford (pro), 540.

Auditor—John Kelley (rep), 1193.

Treasurer—J. P. Houg (rep), 1118.

Sheriff—J. E. Black (rep), 1181.

Register of Deeds—J. H. Adams (rep), 1200.

Judge of Probate—M. Webber (rep), 1204.

Attorney—C. H. Christopherson (rep), 1088.

Clerk of Court—O. E. Ferguson (rep), 1191.

Superintendent of Schools—Edia A. Headley (rep), 1199.

Court Commissioner—J. O. Helgeson, 27.

Coroner—J. E. Treat (rep), 1065.

Surveyor—W. N. Davidson, 13.

Commissioner Second District—C. H. Baldwin (rep), 191.

Commissioner Fourth District—J. A. Kennicott (rep), 320.

And now the political history of Rock county is brought to a close. It covers a period from the time in 1870 when the first county official took the oath of office—when there was a mere handful of men in the county who availed themselves of the privilege of voting—up to and including the last general election before the date of publication of this volume. A brief summary of the conditions during this time may not be out of place.

The county has always been normally republican. In the early days it was considered a disgrace, and almost a crime, to have other political affiliations. There have been county elections at which every vote was for the republican ticket. Although the party of Jefferson polled fair sized votes at several elections, it has never carried the county for the national ticket; at two elections it carried the county for governor and on one occasion for congressman.

During the entire early history of the county and up to the middle eighties, the republican party was the only one maintaining an organization. But during this time there was a strong independent movement, kept alive by one faction of the re-

⁸⁴The vote was divided among the several precincts as follows: Battle Plain, 37; Beaver Creek township and village, 161; Clinton, 72; Denver, 50; Hardwick, 53; Hills, 79; Kanaranzi, 58; Laverne city, south ward, 250; north ward, 209; Laverne township, 62; Magnolia township

and village, 68; Martin, 97; Mound, 56; Rose Dell, 60; Springwater, 50; Vienna, 63.

⁸⁵Was elected.

⁸⁶Was elected.

⁸⁷Was elected.

publican party and a few democrats, which opposed the republican organization and on several occasions gained partial control of county politics. With the later settlement of the county came the organization of the democratic party, and since that time it has been a factor in county politics, although always as a minority party.

During the free silver days of the nineties the peoples party came into existence, and for a few years was a power in county politics. When its power began to wane, fusion was accomplished with the democrats, and for some time longer the combined forces furnished opposition to the dominant party.

The prohibitionists have never been strong in Rock county. In one or two campaigns they placed nominees for county offices in the field, but they have not maintained a permanent organization. Socialists and other minor parties have little or no strength in the county and never had organizations.

Rock county has been fortunate in its selection of county officers. During its political history of forty-one years, there has not been a defaulting county officer, so far as I am able to learn. Nor has there been a removal because of criminal action or incompetence, with one exception.

CHAPTER IX.

LUVERNE—1867-1911.

LUVERNE, the capital of Rock county, is the oldest and most populous town in the county. It is located on Rock river, and its elevation above sea level is 1451 feet. It is on three lines of railway, the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific, the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha, and the Doon branch of the Omaha system, being a terminus of the last named. Otherwise described, Luverne is within two and one-half miles, in a direct line, of the geographical center of Rock county. The business center of the city is seven and three-quarters miles from the eastern boundary of the county, thirteen and one-half miles from the north line, twelve and one-half miles from the western border, and ten and one-half miles from the southern boundary.

The population of Luverne, according to the census of 1910, is 2510. It is one of the progressive and prosperous towns of southwestern Minnesota. All lines of business that are to be found in the towns of the agricultural communities of the upper Mississippi valley are represented. It is noted for its beautiful homes, schools, churches and social organizations, and in these respects it is the peer of any city of its size in the state.

Considered in its natural state, the location of Luverne is one of unusual

beauty; southwestern Minnesota has not a more lovely spot. Through the eastern part of the city flows Rock river, skirted with a growth of natural timber, which forms a series of pretty little parks. In its natural state and with the embellishments added by the hands of man, Luverne ranks as one of the prettiest little cities of a state distinguished for its pretty towns. Especially is one charmed with its loveliness in summer. Then the broad avenues and parks are clothed in brightest green. Trees are everywhere. Due to the foresight of the pioneers of the town, the spot which was once barren prairie is now a bower of beauty.

One can hardly realize that less than a half century ago this spot was an uncharted wilderness, practically unknown to white men; yet such is the case. Time was when the dusky red man pitched his tepee where now Luverne's churches are located; vast herds of bison inhabited the Rock river country and made their wallows, perhaps, where now the courts are held; timid deer browsed where at present the pupil studies his natural history; elk in countless numbers roamed the adjacent prairies and saw their antlers reflected in the clear waters of the Rock as they bent down to drink.

When the first white man set foot on the present site of Luverne is not known.

Possibly he was some adventurous trapper who had pushed out beyond his associates in an endeavor to locate new grounds in which to ply his trade, and, having come to Rock river, proceeded up the stream to the point where was later founded the city. Possibly the first man was a member of the Nicollet party, or some other explorer of southwestern Minnesota. During the military operations against the Sioux Indians, following the outbreak of 1862, the route of the white avengers across Rock river passed close to the city-to-be and was traversed occasionally by parties of soldiers and scouts. Later still, during the middle sixties, trappers on Rock river occasionally passed over the site, but no record of the operations of these people is left.

The history of Luverne may properly be said to begin in 1867, although it was some time later when the town was actually founded. As has been told in chapter two of this volume, Philo Hawes, accompanied by Joe Fields, arrived on Rock river and camped a short distance north of the present city on June 13, 1867, on a trip to select a government mail route from Jackson, Minnesota, to Yankton, Dakota territory. Accompanied by four workmen, Mr. Hawes again visited the Rock September 18, and on the following day he selected the site of Luverne as a place on which to establish a stopping place for the mail carriers and as a future home for himself. On September 19, 1867, the first building in Luverne was erected, a stable built of poles and hay. After making the improvement Mr. Hawes and workmen continued on their way to establish other stations. He returned again November 25, accompanied

by John Lietze and family and Miss Miranda J. Skinner, who were the first white persons to claim residence in Luverne. Mr. Lietze was in the employ of Mr. Hawes and came out to the frontier for the purpose of "holding down" his employer's claim and to maintain a "Half-Way House" on the mail route. For the accommodation of himself and family a dug-out was constructed in a bank near where the Rock Island elevators now stand. In this building the Lietze family and Miss Skinner passed the winter of 1867-68.

Philo Hawes moved on his farm with his family in March, 1868, and Mr. Lietze and his family departed for their former home in Blue Earth City. Mr. Hawes erected an 18x24 feet log cabin and in the fall built a 12x24 feet addition. For two years this was the only building on the townsite, and in it centered the activities of the immediate neighborhood. With Mr. Hawes came George McKenzie, who took an adjoining claim; Edward McKenzie came in April, 1868, was a mail carrier in the employ of Mr. Hawes, and made his home in the pioneer cabin; E. N. Darling and family and George Blasdell came in October and during the next winter Mr. Darling's family resided in the Hawes cabin; Edwin Gillham was also employed as a mail carrier and made his headquarters there. In the pioneer log cabin the mail for all the residents of Rock county was handled, the work being attended to by Mr. Darling, who, although not a regularly commissioned postmaster, made out the reports and did the other clerical work. In 1869 Edward McKenzie was commissioned postmaster.¹

¹Philo Hawes became postmaster of Luverne in 1871 and served until December, 1874. He was succeeded by C. O. Hawes, during whose service the office was raised to the third class, in December, 1879. C. O. Hawes was postmaster until September 1, 1887, when he was succeeded by L. H. Way. Philo Hawes again took charge

of the office July 1, 1890, and served a four-year term. L. H. Way again received the commission under the democratic administration and served until Mark Swedberg was appointed in the summer of 1898. Mr. Swedberg has ever since that date been postmaster of Luverne.

Five rural mail routes are supplied from the

At this early period there seems to have been no intention on the part of Mr. Hawes or any one else to found a town where later Luverne was built. But the Hawes home gradually became recognized as the social and business center of the little community that grew up along Rock river. Here were located the postoffice and mail route station and a genial family, and here transpired most of the neighborhood gossip and business transactions. In a cabin on an adjoining claim, in 1869, Abraham McMurphy put in a small stock of staple goods, which he retailed to the neighbors. His stock consisted principally of sugar, tobacco, calico and a few other articles of common necessity, the total value of the stock never exceeding \$100. The goods were brought in at various times from the nearest trading points by Mr. McMurphy or his neighbors, and he continued to conduct this primitive and pioneer store nearly two years. The enterprise added to the importance of the place, and for two years before a town was started the little community was known as Luverne, in honor of Philo Hawes' daughter, Eva Luverne.²

An important addition to the Luverne settlement was P. J. Kniss, who arrived June 6, 1870, took a claim on the northeast quarter of section 11, and there erect-

ed a log cabin, the second building on the future townsite.³ Then came an event of the greatest importance—no less than the selection of Luverne, boasting building improvements to the extent of two log houses, as the county seat of Rock county. This important step was taken September 1, 1870, when J. F. Shoemaker, Jonathan Phelps and Amos Estey, the commissioners named for the purpose by Governor Austin, decided that Luverne (described as situated on the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 11) should be the seat of government of the new county. Upon the consummation of this selection, with the organization of Rock county an assured fact, came the certainty that a town would be founded at Luverne to uphold the dignity bestowed upon the site.⁴ A correspondent writing from Luverne December 15, 1870, said: "There is an excellent opportunity for some enterprising merchant to establish himself in business here, as a store is needed very much. A winter school is about to commence at Luverne."

The organization of Rock county was perfected in January, 1871, and a short time later came the establishment of the pioneer business enterprises. Philo Hawes brought in a small stock of merchandise early in the year, and a little later South-

²Luverne office. The dates of establishment and the first carriers on these routes are as follows: No. 1, April 1, 1902, Horace Goodale, carrier; No. 2, September 1, 1902, Ira E. Crosby, carrier; No. 3, April 1, 1904, William C. Johnson, carrier; No. 4, June 1, 1905, William H. Goodale, carrier; No. 5, June 1, 1907, Rex J. Kennedy, carrier.

³Eva Luverne Hawes was born at Cannon Falls, Goodhue county, Minnesota, November 14, 1857, accompanied her parents to the Rock river home in 1868, was married to P. F. Kelley September 5, 1876, and died at Luverne June 9, 1881. In the early days the commonly accepted form of spelling the name of the town was with the capital V. The Luverne correspondent to the Jackson Republic, writing July 21, 1872, said: "You will please notice the change in spelling the name of our town; it is not Luverne any more, but LuVerne." The Rock County Herald, in its first issue, May 23, 1873, said: "The correct way to write LuVerne is with a capital V, not Luverne." For a number of years that form was used, but the style was gradually replaced by the present form.

⁴"P. J. Kniss' old log house, erected on his homestead in the west part of town in 1870, has been torn down. . . . By the destruction of this old log house one of the pioneer landmarks of Luverne and Rock county has been destroyed. The house when built was the finest in Rock county and the logs for its construction were cut along the banks of Rock river. Old settlers will recall many happy gatherings in pioneer days in this pleasant old house and many will regret that so familiar a landmark has been sacrificed for a structure of more modern times."—Rock County Herald, February, 1895.

⁵"A correspondent from Rock county, in writing us on business, says that things are looking bright and prosperous there and that several buildings are in contemplation next spring on the townsite of Luverne. This is one of the pleasantest locations in the west and Rock county one of the best counties in the state."—Jackson Republic, December 10, 1870.

wich Brothers, of Freeborn, brought to the site a fair sized stock of dry goods and groceries,⁵ but apparently did not long remain in business. B. S. Wold and Alex McKay erected a frame store building during the summer months and opened the town's first permanent general merchandise store, conducting the business under the firm name of McKay & Wold. A gentleman who passed through Luverne in the spring of 1871 in after years told of the visit as follows:⁶

From Graham Lakes to Rock river, now Luverne, a distance of forty-five miles, there was not a sign of a house or habitation of any description—nothing but the wild prairie, without even a tree or bush. We made the journey across to the Rock river in a day and camped at the ford for the night. Philo Hawes had a log house just completed, and another man—I think his name was Shoemaker—had a little hovel erected, and a firm from Jackson had the foundation for a store laid and was waiting for the lumber to come from Jackson for the store. After leaving Luverne there was no sign of a settlement until we came to the Sioux river at Iverson's crossing, seven miles east of Sioux Falls.

The construction of McKay & Wold's store building was the only improvement made in 1871, and the capital of Rock county certainly did not boast metropolitan greatness. G. M. Henton, who came to Rock county early in 1872, has written of the conditions in Luverne as he found them at that early day:

⁵"G." in a letter dated July 5, 1871, to the *Jackson Republic*.

⁶ J. Mills in *Sioux Falls Press*, April, 1890.

⁷"But, in passing, I cannot forbear to notice the earliest of all old settlers, who gladly and cheerfully welcomed all newcomers and who occupied a very unpretentious log cabin, in which he kept the hotel and postoffice, and who with the late lamented P. J. Kniss and Edward McKenzie was surveying the original town plat of this beautiful city on May 20, 1872, and then watched and prayed for people to come and occupy the site he had selected, and so make a town. That man was Philo Hawes."—Ira Crawford in an address delivered at an old settlers' reunion, June 8, 1898.

⁸Additions to Luverne have been platted as follows:

Warren & Kniss', by A. J. Warren and P. J. Kniss, July 8, 1874; surveyed by P. J. Kniss.

Van Eps & Vary's, by William Van Eps and

I came to Worthington by rail. From there we staged it to Luverne, which then had three buildings—P. J. Kniss' log house in the west part of town, Philo Hawes' log house near the present site of the Burlington depot, and a part of Mrs. Wold's house, as it now is, which contained merchandise and was owned by McKay & Wold. There were no shade trees as now, and no shade trees had been planted in the town. Grain was growing on the north side of Main street, where now stands the First National Bank and Rock County Bank. The trees along the river had suffered by prairie fires. But we were delighted with the view that presented itself as we came over the hill where now stands the beautiful home of John Jones.

Luverne was not destined to long remain a town of three buildings. Believing that a good town would eventually be built at the county seat, Philo Hawes joined with William Van Eps and Edward McKenzie in platting the Luverne townsite in the spring of 1872. The plat was surveyed by P. J. Kniss on May 20 and 21, and he was assisted in the work by Mr. Hawes and Mr. McKenzie.⁷ The dedication of the plat was dated July 15, 1872, and was signed by William Van Eps, Inez Van Eps, Philo Hawes, Malvina Hawes and Edward McKenzie; the plat was filed for record the following day. The site was divided into sixteen blocks. The north and south streets were named Cedar, McKenzie, Spring, Oakley and Blue Mound; east and west streets were named Luverne, Lincoln, Main, Maple and Fletcher.⁸ A citizen of the

William E. Vary, August 26, 1876; surveyed by E. P. Dobson.

Kniss & Brown's, by P. J. Kniss and O. D. Brown, May 21, 1878; surveyed by J. A. Ogden.

P. J. Kniss', by P. J. Kniss, June 5, 1878; surveyed by J. A. Ogden.

Warren & Kniss' Second, by A. J. Warren and P. J. Kniss, November 15, 1878; surveyed by J. A. Ogden.

Charles O. Hawes', by Charles O. Hawes, May 29, 1886; surveyed by W. N. Davidson.

Thompson's, by S. W. Thompson and Amos Dow, June 9, 1886; surveyed by W. N. Davidson.

Crawford's, by William O. Crawford and L. F. Laverty, May 25, 1891; surveyed by W. N. Davidson.

Randall & Holbert's, by W. H. Randall and E. H. Holbert, June 18, 1892; surveyed by M. S. Smith.

Kniss Park, by P. J. Kniss and Charles O. Hawes, June 22, 1892; surveyed by W. N. Davidson.

Greenvale, by P. J. Kniss, April 19, 1893; surveyed by W. N. Davidson.



MAIN STREET, LUVERNE



RESIDENCE STREET, LUVERNE

little village wrote on May 29, 1872: "Messrs. Hawes and Van Eps, proprietors of the townsite, are replatting it and making the streets wider; they are now eighty feet wide. They have a fine location for a town on the banks of the Rock river. They offer as an inducement to business men to locate here from one to three lots free if they will erect a building on the townsite."⁹

The belief of the townsite owners was verified. Early in the spring of 1872 came evidence of activity in the embryo village. In May P. J. Kniss and C. F. Crosby erected a real estate office building, the dimensions of which were 16x20 feet. Late in the summer Dr. W. E. Vary opened a hotel, having commenced the construction of the building early in the season.¹⁰ Hofelmann Brothers started a blacksmith shop during the summer season and erected a residence. William H. Glass put up a building on East Main street and established the second general merchandise store. Wilson & Howard established a drug store in a little shanty, which they erected.¹¹ John and James Helm built a store-house and engaged in the grain business, buying 2000 bushels of wheat and oats before the close of the year at

seventy-five cents per bushel for wheat and thirty-five cents for oats. Several other business buildings were started in 1872, but the early coming of winter interrupted the work. Howard Brothers ordered part of a stock of hardware, but were unable to complete their building in time to open in 1872. Mike McCarthy laid the foundation for a saloon building, which he was unable to complete until the following spring.

The little village made progress in other matters besides the establishment of business houses during this prosperous year. In the summer mail routes were in operation between the youthful town and Worthington, Sioux Falls, Dell Rapids and LeMars;¹² bonds to the amount of \$700 were voted to erect a school house in Luverne; there was talk of building a court house; inducements were offered any one who would start a flouring mill. There was a big immigration to Rock county in 1872 and the pioneer business men enjoyed a lively trade.

Activities were resumed early in the spring of 1873. Howard Brothers completed their double store building and engaged in the general merchandise and hardware business; Mike McCarthy com-

Barck, Adams & Howe's, by Albert Barck, A. P. Adams and S. H. Howe, June 5, 1893; surveyed by W. N. Davidson.

Kniss Outlot Annex, by executors estate of P. J. Kniss, deceased, and E. L. Johnson, June 30, 1897; surveyed by W. N. Davidson.

Whitney's, by County Auditor, May 28, 1898; surveyed by W. N. Davidson.

Parriotts, by Martha Jane Parriott and others, July 1, 1901; surveyed by W. N. Davidson.

County Auditor's Outlots, by County Auditor, July 7, 1903; surveyed by D. E. Harvey.

⁹The lands within the present incorporated limits of the city were secured from the government by the following named persons and on the dates given:

George W. Daniels, April 1, 1872, se¼ 2.

Horace A. Gregory, April 1, 1875, sw¼ 2.

St. Paul & Sioux City Railroad company, se¼ 3, s¼ 11, w¼nw¼ 11.

Joseph Jones, June 25, 1873, s¼nw¼ 10.

P. J. Kniss, July 12, 1876, n¼se¼, s¼ne¼ 10.

Charles O. Hawes, November 10, 1877, n¼ne¼ 10.

Charles O. Hawes, November 10, 1877, n¼ne¼ 10.

George W. Kniss, October 1, 1878, s¼se¼ 10.
Philo Hawes, February 25, 1875, e¼ne¼ 14, s¼ne¼ 11.

¹⁰"The largest and most conspicuous building in Luverne is the Luverne house. Much of the present and prospective development of the town is attributed to the energy of Dr. Vary in getting his house in running order last season and to his unwavering confidence in the noble future of Luverne and vicinity. He carries the same energy into this new occupation, hotel-keeping. Let every traveler approach with perfect confidence that as long as a pound of provisions remains in town he will be well fed, and as long as there is a square inch of room left in the 'school section' the doctor will not cease to say, 'Rest, traveler, rest.'"—Rock County Herald, May 23, 1873.

¹¹There were several changes in the ownership of the pioneer drug store. L. A. Daniels bought W. Howard's interest, and for a time the business was conducted under the firm name of Wilson & Daniels; in March, 1873, Edward McKenzie bought Dr. Wilson's interest, and he and L. A. Daniels in May sold to I. Crawford & Co.

¹²Mail was received daily from Worthington: on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays from Sioux Falls and Yankton; on Thursdays from Dell Rapids; and on Saturdays from LeMars.

pleted his building during the summer and engaged in the saloon and restaurant business; A. J. Bartlett and William Jacobsen arrived in the spring, put up a building, and started another general store;¹³ Crawford Brothers came to the new town, erected a building, and engaged in the drug business, buying the stock of Daniels & McKenzie; Philo Hawes bought the old drug store building and moved his postoffice to the more central location; the school house was completed and ready for occupancy in the spring; a church was founded; a bridge was constructed across Rock river in the town by private subscription; S. J. Jenkins brought a printing plant and on May 23 founded the Rock County Herald. The Luverne business firms represented by advertisements in the first issue of the pioneer journal were as follows:

McKay & Wold, general merchandise.

William H. Glass, general merchandise.

Howard Brothers, general merchandise and hardware.

Bartlett & Jacobsen, general merchandise.

Dr. W. E. Vary, Luverne hotel.

I. Crawford & Co., drugs and groceries.

S. J. Jenkins, Rock County Herald.

Helm Brothers (John and James), feed store.

Hofelmann Brothers, blacksmith shop.

W. H. Patterson, shoe repair shop.

Crosby & Kniss, real estate and insurance.

P. J. Kniss, notary public, county surveyor and locator.

R. O. Crawford, doctor.

Charles F. Crosby, attorney.

E. D. Hadley, attorney.

James H. Lyttle, contractor and builder.

McKenzie & Gillham, stage line.

In less than two years Luverne had developed from two log cabins into a flourishing little village, in which were represented many lines of business, conducted by an exceptionally progressive class of men. The surrounding farm lands were rapidly becoming settled and developed. The prospects seemed, indeed, flattering for the continued growth and advancement of the little hamlet on the Rock. But the prospects were not fulfilled. Came the ruinous grasshopper days, and for three years Luverne was at a standstill. It was during the summer of 1873 that this calamity befell. At once the growth of the town was checked, business was dull and there was a general feeling of dejection. A town depending solely upon an agricultural community for support is left in pretty bad circumstances when the country has had a succession of nearly total crop failures, and Luverne was no exception to the rule. Business men extended credit until they lost their own; several failed and moved away. There was not only a cessation of progress, there was retrogression. Luverne township, in which the little village of Luverne was situated, had a population of 267 in 1875.

Although the hard times had not disappeared or the grasshopper visitations ceased, in 1876 came a revival of business in Luverne. This was caused by the coming of the first railroad. The first train was run into the village October 2, but in anticipation of the event times had been lively all summer. The work of building the town was taken up where it had been suspended three years before.¹⁴

¹³"Messrs. Bartlett & Jacobson, of Iowa, have been traveling over the country, looking for a business location, and, like sensible men, have concluded to cast their lot with us. They are going to erect a store, 20x30 feet, to be stocked with a general assortment of merchandise." Correspondence, dated April 5, 1873, in Jackson Republic.

¹⁴"Work on the many buildings in course of construction about town is progressing as rapidly as the necessary material can be delivered on the ground. And altogether things are lively these days."—Rock County Herald, June 24, 1876.

A great life-awakening agency was the coming of the railroad, and when it became apparent that the 1877 crop was to be saved, the town began life anew. There was some advancement in 1877,¹⁵ but it was not until the following year that the boom came. From early in the spring until late in the fall new buildings were erected in all parts of the village. The sound of the hammer and saw was the music which attended the founding of new business enterprises; the streets were thronged with new arrivals. Thousands of families arrived in the white-topped "prairie schooners," seeking new homes in the land of promise, and the merchants of Luverne earned the reward that had been so long coming. It was during these thriving times that the residents of the county seat village decided to take up the burdens of municipal government.

The first steps toward securing incorporation were taken in January, 1877, when the draft of a bill was made and presented to the legislature by a few interested parties. After this action had been taken, a mass meeting of the citizens was called for the purpose of discussing the matter. The meeting was held at the Luverne school house on the evening of January 30. There developed great opposition to the project, and those who had taken upon themselves the burden of framing the bill and presenting it to the

legislature without first consulting the wishes of the citizens were severely arraigned. No vote was taken at that mass meeting to determine public sentiment, but with the understanding that immediate action should not be taken, the bill was allowed to pass the legislature without opposition. The bill "to incorporate the village of Luverne, in Rock county," was approved by the governor February 14, 1877. It provided for the incorporation of sections 2, 3, 10 and 11, of Luverne township, and named E. D. Hadley, P. J. Kniss and William Jacobsen as the persons who should call the first election and conduct the preliminaries.

Out of deference to public sentiment, the gentlemen named in the incorporation act did not take steps to put the act into effect before the fall of 1878. Then, there having been such large accessions of population and material growth, on October 21 they gave notice of an election to organize under the provisions of the act, naming November 12 as election day. Village officers were chosen on that date, and on the evening of November 15 the Luverne municipal government was begun, when the village council met for the first time. For twenty-six years Luverne was under this form of government and then became incorporated as a city. Those who held office under the village government were as follows:¹⁶

¹⁵The first brick building erected in Luverne was put up by W. H. Wilson in the summer of 1877.

¹⁶During the years of village government the question of licensing saloons in Luverne was an issue. Even before incorporation, the question was decided by ballot in the Luverne township elections several times. In 1876 and 1877 the against-license advocates won by small majorities, and in the spring of 1878 they were successful by the overwhelming vote of 148 to 35. Prior to 1881 there was no provision in the charter for voting on the question, the matter being left in the hands of the village council. At each election during that period license and against-license tickets were in the field and the issue was sharply defined. The first village council, which served less than two months, granted license, having been elected by an average vote of 115 against 67 for the prohibition candidates, but the second one, elected January 7, 1879, was against license.

having been elected over the license faction by an average vote of 109 against 76. In 1880 a license council was elected, and the following year a no-license ticket was chosen by an average majority of 17. Direct local option was extended to Luverne by legislative act in 1881, and thereafter until the form of government was changed in 1904, the license question was an issue at nearly every election, with the following results:

1882—For, 74; against, 23.
 1883—For, 46; against, 2.
 1884—License council by 8 majority.
 1885—License council elected.
 1886—For, 174; against, 75.
 1887—License council elected.
 1888—For, 191; against, 124.
 1889—For, 163; against, 134.
 1890—For, 178; against, 128.
 1891—For, 179; against, 117.
 1892—For, 236; against, 136.
 1893—For, 191; against, 110.
 1894—For, 291; against, 137.

1878—President, R. Herren; trustees, W. E. Vary, J. P. Landin, W. H. Wilson; recorder, P. F. Kelley; treasurer, A. Erickson; justice, N. R. Reynolds; constable, D. G. Shell.

1879—President, P. F. Kelley; trustees, Daniel Stone, E. D. Hadley, S. Walters; recorder, N. R. Reynolds; treasurer, A. Erickson; constable, Horace Plum.

1880—President, R. Herren; trustees, Daniel Stone, W. H. Wilson, A. A. Clifford; recorder, R. O. Crawford; treasurer, A. Erickson.

1881—President, E. D. Hadley;¹⁷ trustees, M. Webber, W. O. Crawford,¹⁸ W. H. Glass; recorder, A. E. Patterson; treasurer, B. S. Wold; justice, N. R. Reynolds;¹⁹ constable, G. E. Bushnell.

1882—President, W. H. Halbert; trustees, A. Ross, P. R. Schuyler, P. F. Kelley;²⁰ recorder, J. L. Helm; treasurer, B. S. Wold.

1883—President, Ezra Rice;²¹ trustees, A. Ross, P. R. Schuyler, F. S. Gibson; recorder, J. A. Harroun; treasurer, A. Erickson; justice, R. M. Click; constable, F. D. Putney.

1884—President, P. J. Kniss; trustees, A. Ross, H. J. Miller, F. S. Gibson; recorder, J. H. Gray; treasurer, A. Erickson; justice, E. D. Hadley.

1885—President, H. J. Miller; trustees, W. T. Gibson, N. Nelson, J. D. Robinson; recorder, M. Webber; treasurer, W. P. Hurlbut; justices, R. W. Cooley, R. M. Click; constable, H. H. Andrews.

1886—President, H. J. Miller; trustees, J. H. Gray, J. L. Spencer, G. C. Huntington;²² recorder, M. Webber; treasurer, William Jacobsen; justice, A. Barck; constable, W. H. Maxwell.

1887—President, H. J. Miller; trustees, G. W. Snook, J. W. Gerber, Philip Peteler;²³ recorder, S. B. Nelson; treasurer, William Jacobsen; justice, R. M. Click.²⁴

1888—President, William Jacobsen;²⁵ trustees, J. W. Gerber, Philo Hawes, G. W. Snook; recorder, M. Webber; treasurer,

Mark Swedberg; justice, A. Barck; constables, Edward McKenzie, W. H. Marshall.

1889—President, W. A. Wright; trustees, W. T. Goodhue, J. A. Kennicott, Henry Hofelmann; recorder, M. Webber; treasurer, Mark Swedberg; justice, M. Webber; constable, F. D. Putney.

1890—President, J. A. Kennicott; trustees, Henry Hofelmann, W. T. Goodhue, W. F. Kendall; recorder, Jens Billington; treasurer, Mark Swedberg; assessor, W. T. Gibson; justice, A. Barck; constable, J. J. Myers.

1891—President, J. F. Mahoney; trustees, W. F. Kendall, P. J. Kniss, S. W. Thompson;²⁶ recorder, A. Barck; treasurer, Mark Swedberg; assessor, C. R. Henton; justice, M. Webber; constable, H. Henderson.

1892—President, W. F. Kendall; trustees, E. L. Dobell, Henry Hofelmann, J. W. Gerber;²⁷ recorder, A. Barck; treasurer, Mark Swedberg; assessor, William Macfadden; justice, J. O. Helgeson; constable, A. E. Maderson.

1893—President, W. H. Wilson; trustees, John H. Sanders,²⁸ E. H. Bronson, E. L. Dobell;²⁹ recorder, C. R. Henton; treasurer, Mark Swedberg; assessor, William Macfadden; constable, J. J. Myers.

1894—President, A. P. Adams; trustees, L. L. Bryan, H. J. Thomte, T. E. Jones; recorder, W. F. Kendall; treasurer, A. Ross; assessor, Thomas Barck; justice, J. O. Helgeson; constable, M. M. Jensen.

1895—President, A. P. Adams; trustees, L. L. Bryan, T. E. Jones, C. Heinz; recorder, E. S. Rogers; treasurer, A. Ross; assessor, V. C. Mead; justice, M. Webber; constable, J. J. Myers.

1896—President, A. P. Adams; trustees, L. L. Bryan, T. E. Jones, C. Heinz; recorder, E. S. Rogers; treasurer, A. Ross; assessor, V. C. Mead; justice, William Bateson; constable, W. C. Turner.

1897—President, John Kelley; trustees, L. L. Bryan, W. E. E. Greene, E. J. Schmidt;

1895—For, 237; against, 141.

1896—For, 219; against, 118.

1897—Not an issue.

1898—For, 240; against, 116.

1899—For, 258; against, 192.

1900—Not an issue.

1901—For, 269; against, 115.

1902—Not an issue.

1903—For, 227; against, 166.

1904—For, 269; against, 160.

Under the city charter no provision is made for voting on the question and license has since been granted.

¹⁷Resigned. The council on May 6 elected H. J. Miller to fill the vacancy.

¹⁸Removed from the village and was succeeded by Daniel Stone on May 13.

¹⁹Succeeded by R. M. Click October 17, 1882.

²⁰Resigned to accept appointment as street commissioner. C. O. Hawes was elected to the vacancy but he resigned soon after. William Jacobsen was elected to serve out the term in June, 1882.

²¹Resigned May 1 and was succeeded by E. D. Hadley.

²²Did not qualify. Henry Hofelmann appointed.

²³Resigned February 7, 1888. Was succeeded by G. H. Henton.

²⁴Died in July, 1887. At a special election held August 11 N. R. Reynolds elected to the vacancy.

²⁵Resigned and on May 1 was succeeded by Philo Hawes. Mr. Hawes, who had been elected trustee, was succeeded in that capacity by G. H. Henton.

²⁶Resigned January 5, 1892. G. W. Millhouse appointed to the vacancy.

²⁷Did not qualify. J. H. Graaf appointed to the vacancy May 6, 1891.

²⁸Resigned December 5, 1893, and was succeeded by J. A. Kennicott.

²⁹Did not qualify, and on March 15 M. Webber appointed. Mr. Webber resigned as trustee September 5, whereupon V. C. Mead was named his successor.

recorder, E. S. Rogers; treasurer, A. Ross; assessor, V. C. Mead; justice, M. Webber; constable, J. J. Myers.

1898—President, John Kelley; trustees, J. P. Houg, S. L. Chapin, P. A. Christianson; recorder, E. C. Schwartz; treasurer, A. Ross; assessor, L. J. Okre; justice, William Bateson; constable, W. C. Turner.

1899—President, John Kelley; trustees, S. L. Chapin, O. S. Myhre, Benjamin Dodds; recorder, E. C. Schwartz; treasurer, A. Ross; assessor, L. J. Okre; justices, M. Webber, N. R. Reynolds; constable, J. J. Myers.

1900—President, William Bateson; trustees, James Furlow, B. F. Woodrow, E. B. Doolittle; recorder, E. C. Schwartz; treasurer, A. Ross; assessor, W. N. Davidson; constable, W. C. Turner.

1901—President, James Furlow; trustees, B. F. Woodrow, C. A. Yaeger, E. B. Doolittle; recorder, E. C. Schwartz; treasurer, A. Ross; assessor, J. S. Joles; justices, M. Webber, N. R. Reynolds; constable, J. J. Myers.

1902—President, B. F. Woodrow; trustees, C. A. Yaeger, E. N. Sisson, W. J. Kinne; recorder, E. W. Backer; treasurer, A. Ross; assessor, J. S. Joles; constable, Charles Crego.

1903—President, James Furlow; trustees, W. J. Kinne, George Leet, S. A. D. Kennedy; recorder, E. C. Schwartz; treasurer, A. Ross; assessor, J. S. Joles; justices, W. H. Armstrong, N. R. Reynolds; constable, Ira M. Sanders.

1904—President, E. A. Brown; trustees, W. J. Kinne, George Leet, S. A. D. Kennedy; recorder, E. C. Schwartz; treasurer, A. Ross; assessor, J. S. Joles; constables, Charles Crego, J. J. Myers.

After the boom days of 1878, came three years of comparatively quiet times, the year 1879, particularly, being classed as "dull." The crops of 1880 and 1881 were blighted, having the effect to hold in check the activities of the town, although there was no decline. But so great had been the growth during the late seventies that when the federal census of 1880 was taken Luverne had a population of 679 and was the largest town in southwestern Minnesota.³⁹

The three years of quiet times preceded an unprecedented era of prosperity in the history of Luverne. During 1882 to 1886, inclusive, the village made rapid

strides toward the goal of greatness, more than doubling its population during that period, adding largely to its business interests; and taking rank as the best town of southwestern Minnesota, as well as the largest. The accomplishments were made possible by the rapid settlement and development of the rich lands of Rock county, by abundant harvests, by the building of a new line of railway through the town and by the general prosperous times.

The first year of this cycle of advancement was 1882. There was great activity in building operations, among the principal items being a creamery, a new school house and a business block, 60x75 feet, at the corner of Main and Cedar streets, in which were housed a new bank, the post-office and a drug store. Said the Rock County Herald June 9, 1882: "Luverne is enjoying a boom of a pattern the numberless towns of northern Minnesota and Dakota that are forcing themselves so conspicuously upon public attention would do well to consider and emulate. There is greater activity in building operations this year than at any previous time in the history of Luverne."

The following directory of the business firms in Luverne in the spring of 1883 gives us a birdseye view of the town at that time and is interesting in comparison with the directory of just ten years before, which has been reproduced on preceding pages:

Banks—Bank of Luverne, P. J. Kniss, president; Rock County Bank, William Jacobsen, president.

General Merchandise—Landin & Nelson, B. S. Wold, W. H. Glass, S. S. Walters, M. F. Battelle, H. W. Helm & Co., A. Erickson & Son, A. L. Stoughton.

Groceries—P. R. Schuyler, D. Stone, L. Hollis, E. E. Ellis, J. B. Kelley.

Hardware—Gerber & Ross, Peteler Brothers.

Drugs—Dr. R. O. Crawford, Mead & Millhouse.

³⁹Other towns in southwestern Minnesota had population as follows: Worthington, 636; Farmington, 541; Jackson, 501; Madelia, 489; Windom,

443; St. James, 431; Heron Lake, 226; Pipestone, 222; Adrian, 193; Edgerton, 86.

Books & Stationery—Harroun & Hawes, Mead & Millhouse.

Hotels—Merchants Hotel, M. McCarthy, proprietor; Luverne House, Joles & Johnson, proprietors; Freeman Avenue House, J. Redfield, proprietor.

Furniture—Saxton Brothers, C. C. Drew. Millinery—H. W. Helm & Co., Mrs. N. A. Crowell.

Clothing—P. R. Schuyler and the general dealers.

Jewelers—Harroun, Hawes & Swedberg; R. M. Click.

Lumber Dealers—Herren & Wadleigh, J. L. Spencer.

Wood and Coal—Patterson & Walters, F. A. Hyke, Peavey Brothers, M. Pedrick, M. F. Battelle, Gibson Brothers.

Farm Machinery—Gibson Brothers, Stone & Wold, Ezra Rice, M. F. Battelle.

Grain Dealers—Ezra Rice, Stone & Wold, F. A. Hyke, Patterson & Walters.

Harness Makers—F. M. Scheble, Albert Hyke.

Shoemakers—C. Millhouse, C. Erickson. Meat Markets—Putney & Goethel, J. T. Brennan, Charles Andre.

Livery Stables—Gibson Brothers, A. B. Wellman.

Saloons—A. McGrath, B. B. Champion, M. McCarthy, D. Powell, Ralph Jaybush, R. B. Cosgriff, Eugene Winegar.

Physicians—Dr. A. E. Spalding, Dr. R. O. Crawford, Dr. F. H. Kilgore.

Attorneys—E. D. Hadley, N. R. Reynolds, M. Webber, S. A. Mead, E. H. Canfield, J. F. Cornish, W. N. Davidson.

Dentist—Dr. C. A. Palmer.

Carpenters and Builders—Jones & Soutar, Minard & Dixon, J. H. Lyttle, G. S. Adron, I. A. Moreaux.

Masons and Contractors—P. N. Gillham, O. A. Bullett.

Barbers—Hurd & Lewis, T. J. McDermott. Dray and Express Lines—John Green, H. F. Oliver.

Restaurants—N. J. Click, A. Kimball.

Flour Mills—Luverne Mills, W. H. Wilson, proprietor; Estey Mills, A. R. Hildebrandt, proprietor.

Flour and Feed—W. H. Wilson, Patterson & Walters, L. Hollis, F. A. Hyke.

Photographer—F. N. Robinson.

Real Estate Agencies—Bank of Luverne, Rock County Bank, Kniss & Gray.

Farm Loan Office—Edward P. Brooks.

Creamery—Rock County Creamery, Raymond & Welker, proprietors.

Blacksmiths—G. H. Henton, Hofelmann Brothers, A. B. Wellman, Abraham Oleson.

Wagon Makers—W. F. Kendall, Hofelmann Brothers.

Luverne continued to grow and improve in 1883 with a steady certainty that indicated financial health and prosperity.³¹ An authority estimated the value of the building improvements during the seasons of 1882 and 1883 at over \$85,000. Most of the new buildings were creditable structures, and village real estate appreciated in value rapidly. But this was only the beginning. During 1884 carpenters, builders and masons were in steady demand and had far more work than they could handle, and structures to the value of \$50,000 were put up. The Burlington railroad was built to the village in late summer and added to the general activity.

The year of greatest advancement in the boom days of the eighties was 1885. The country surrounding was developing at a rapid rate, and Luverne kept pace with the general advancement. The Sioux Falls Press in October said this good word for the neighboring village: "As an illustration of the thrift and enterprise of the people of Luverne, may be mentioned the building boom which has taken place this year. It is doubtful whether any town of its size can show as good a record for one year as Luverne. The people of that village may well feel proud of their push and enterprise." Many of the handsome brick and stone business blocks which today adorn the principal streets were erected. The value of the building improvements during 1885 was more than \$100,000.³² The census of that year showed a population of 1346, a gain of nearly one hundred per cent in five years.

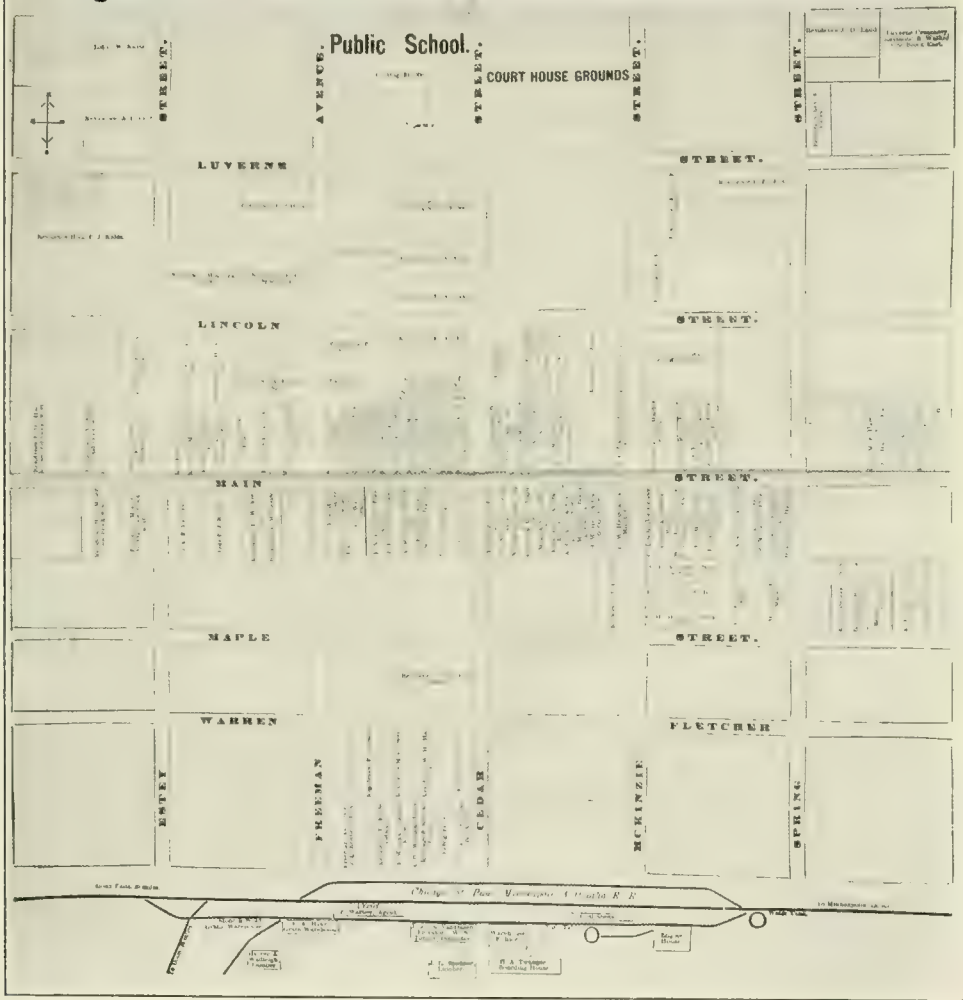
The village was handicapped to some extent during 1885 and 1886 by a diph-

and a new era has been ushered in."—Rock County Herald, June 16, 1885.

³¹At no time in the history of Luverne were the indications of solid prosperity more abundant or the prospects for future growth and development more manifest and unmistakable than those which confront the spectator on every hand at the present time. There is everywhere manifest a general awakening from the lethargy consequent upon hard times and crop failures

³²Among the items of expenditure were the following: B. B. Champion, brick building and other improvements, \$16,000; addition to the school building, \$7500; P. J. Kniss, jasper front stone building, \$7000; C. C. Drew, jasper front

Diagram of the Business Center of LuVerne, Rock County, Minn.



WHEN LUVERNE WAS YOUNG

Diagram of the Village Published in the Rock County Herald in 1883.

theria epidemic. In the village and surrounding country were many cases, and several deaths from the disease resulted. Stringent measures were adopted to stamp out the disease and the precautionary proceedings had a tendency to hamper the advancement. The experience was an unfortunate one.

Building operations on a diminished scale continued during 1886. Most of the improvements that year were residences, and the total expenditures were about \$10,000. Thereafter for a few years, until 1890, was a season of quiet. During 1887 was a complaint of business depression, common to all southwestern Minnesota. The next year was a better one, though not a particularly busy one. Among the improvements were the Rock county court house, a city hall, railroad buildings and several residences. The year also brought the town's most disastrous fire. About two o'clock in the morning of December 13, 1888, a fire started which destroyed four buildings in the business center of the town, entailing a loss of about \$15,000. The buildings burned were Kilgore's drug store, a cigar store, Graaf's clothing store and Mead & Company's hardware store.

The preliminary steps toward the construction of a city hall were taken early in 1887, when a bill was introduced in the legislature by Senator W. B. Brown, authorizing the village to issue \$20,000 bonds for the purpose.³³ Nothing further was done until the following December, when a petition was presented to the village council, asking that body to call a special election to vote on the question of issuing city hall bonds, not to exceed

\$5000. The election was held January 10, 1888, and every one of the 130 votes cast was in favor of bonds. In May the village authorities called another election to vote on the question of issuing \$3000 additional bonds for the purchase of grounds, vaults, heating apparatus and furniture for the proposed city hall, but at the election June 7 the bond issue was defeated by a vote of 94 to 57. Then the village authorities proceeded to erect the building with the funds originally authorized. The contract for the construction of the city hall was let August 13, 1888, to P. N. Gillham on a bid of \$4385, ground was broken for the foundation August 16, and the building was completed before the close of the year.

There was little progress in building operations or the establishment of new enterprises in 1889, but the town was then on a firm basis; it had settled down to normal conditions, and prosperity abounded. A statement was made in the fall of the year by an official of the Burlington road that Luverne did more business than any town on the line of the road between Cedar Rapids and Watertown. The census of 1890 showed only a small gain over the enumeration of five years before, the population being 1466.³⁴

Another period of expansion included the years 1890 to 1893, during which the village on the Rock developed into a greater Luverne. The first year of the series witnessed the construction of one business block and several residences. In 1891 building operations multiplied, and Luverne took front rank as a center of activity. Among the important achievements of the year was the installation of

stone building, \$7000; Rock County Herald, brick building, \$3300; Jones & Gillham, brick building, \$3000; Harroun & Hawes, brick building, \$2000; Rock County Bank, brick building, \$1200; Gibson & Shawyer, business house, \$2000; Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern Railway company, coal sheds, stock yards, etc., \$4000; John Enger, hotel, \$2500.

³³"The Herald is convinced that the measure is not sanctioned by the business men of this town. Luverne needs a town hall and ought to build one next season, but the idea of putting \$20,000 into such a building is simply preposterous." Rock County Herald, February 18, 1887.

³⁴Population of neighboring towns in 1890: Worthington, 1164; Adrian, 671; Pipestone, 1232.

a system of water works at a cost of about \$25,000.³⁵

The greatest advance in Laverne's history up to that time was made in 1892; no other year could be compared with it. Eighty new buildings were erected in the twelve-month, including three four-story business blocks, and the total expenditures amounted to \$185,000.³⁶ A marvelous change in the appearance of the town occurred in this one year; it took on a decidedly metropolitan appearance in comparison with its former condition. It now boasted a city hall, had a water-works system and was lighted by electricity.³⁷ The Herald, in its last issue of 1892, exulted over the progress made: "No inland town in the state can equal the improvement record made by Laverne during the present year. It has taken undisputed rank as the leading town of southwestern Minnesota and as the best, most enterprising and most prosperous county seat town in the state under a population of 5000. No town in the state of the class named can boast of finer business blocks, better public buildings, handsomer private residences, better streets, more public improvements, more shade trees or a more beautiful location; none is more substantial financially or more prosperous, none does a larger business or has brighter prospects."

³⁵The legislature of 1891 passed an act authorizing the voting on the issuance of \$250,000 bonds for a water-works system. At a special election May 5, 1891, the proposition was carried by a vote of 155 to 33. Fearing that the bonds authorized by this election might not have been legally voted, the council called another election for July 28, when the former result was sustained by a vote of 11 to 59. On September 1 the contract for putting in the plant was let to Harbert & Hawley for \$22,575. The plant was completed and in working order in January, 1892.

³⁶A few of the items were as follows: Nelson Bros. & Co., department store, \$27,000; electric light plant, \$9000; Barck, Canfield & Stephen, business block, \$14,000; H. P. Blasdell, business house, \$7000; R. B. Hinkly, residence, \$6000; residences for Captain Holbert A. D. LaDue, Elmer Huntington, William Maynes and others.

³⁷In the summer of 1890 the Laverne Electric Light company was organized and secured a franchise from the village, but failed to make

Almost in a day, without warning, the prosperous times were brought to a close in the summer of 1893. Came the panic with its accompanying evil times, and Laverne's age of advancement ceased. Business was paralyzed; the town was without life. The crop failure of 1894 and the ruinously low prices of 1895 added to the other disagreeable features of the times, and business life was at low-ebb. Not until the late nineties was there complete recovery. The population in 1895 had increased to 1890.

For the first time since the panic, the cry of hard times was not heard in Laverne in 1898. Money was again in circulation, mechanics were busy, trade was good. Buildings were again erected in the town, the value of the improvements in that year amounting to about \$36,000. Improvements continued during the next two years. The county jail was erected, the wooden sidewalks on Main street were replaced by cement pavements, and in 1900 a sewerage system was put in.³⁸ The population of Laverne in 1900 was 2223.

The building improvements during 1901 were valued at \$108,775.³⁹ A fire causing a property loss of nearly \$15,000 occurred on the night of January 27, 1902, when the Krook & Nelson and an adjoining building were destroyed.⁴⁰ The expenditures for new buildings reached

the promised improvement. The electric light system was installed during 1892 by the Western Electric company and was accepted by the village on the last day of January, 1893. Within a few years improvements to the value of \$5000 were made. The plant was paid for in village orders, the last of the debt being wiped out early in 1896.

³⁸Bonds for the sewerage system to the amount of \$10,000 were authorized by the voters July 10, 1900, by a vote of 142 to 111. The system was installed by A. L. Jones.

³⁹Some of the items of expenditure: Manton hotel, \$25,000; McGrath block, \$5000; J. W. Gerber's residence, \$8000; S. A. D. Kennedy's residence, \$5000; Jargo's elevator, \$3500.

⁴⁰The losses were as follows: Krook & Nelson, building and stock, \$12,000; E. B. Burleigh, grocery stock, \$1300; R. B. Hinkly, building, \$500; Miss O'Connell dressmaking establishment, \$400; W. I. Tector, office, \$100.

high-water mark in 1902, when nearly \$200,000 were spent in improvements, including more than thirty residences. The next year the total cost of new buildings was \$100,000.⁴¹

The change in Laverne's form of government was made in 1904, when it assumed the responsibilities of city government. An effort to bring about this change was made in 1900. On November 5 of that year, in response to a petition, Judge P. E. Brown, of the district court, appointed a commission,⁴² of which A. J. Daley became chairman, to prepare a charter under the provisions of the constitution of Minnesota and the laws of 1899. After due deliberation, the charter commission decided that it was inadvisable to incorporate under a special charter such as the board had authority of prepare, and completed its work by recommending that the necessary action be taken to create a city government under the provisions of the general statutes of the state.

There the matter was allowed to rest until 1904. On July 1 of that year a petition, bearing the signatures of 347 voters, was presented to Judge of Probate M. Webber, asking that official to issue the order necessary to bring about the incorporation of Laverne as a city under title two of chapter ten of the general statutes of 1891. Judge Webber made the necessary order early in August; on September 6 the first election was held, and on the following day Laverne began its existence as a city, the city council organizing at that time. Following has been the re-

sult of the several elections under the city form of government:

1904—Mayor, E. A. Brown; aldermen,⁴³ south ward, George Leet, W. J. Kinne, north ward, C. N. Philbrick,⁴⁴ J. L. Jarchow; recorder, E. C. Schwartz; treasurer, A. Ross; justices, N. R. Reynolds, W. H. Armstrong.

1905—Mayor, E. A. Brown; aldermen, south ward, C. O. Wright, north ward, S. L. Chapin; recorder, E. C. Schwartz; treasurer, A. Ross; justices, N. R. Reynolds, W. H. Armstrong.

1906—Mayor, E. A. Brown; aldermen, south ward, Axel Berg, north ward, John H. Sanders; recorder, E. C. Schwartz; treasurer, A. Ross.

1907—Mayor, C. O. Wright; aldermen, south ward, B. S. Dodds, north ward, S. L. Chapin; recorder, E. C. Schwartz; treasurer, A. Ross; justices, N. R. Reynolds, W. H. Armstrong.

1908—Mayor, C. O. Wright; aldermen, south ward, H. Bierkamp, north ward, John H. Sanders; recorder, E. C. Schwartz; treasurer, A. Ross.

1909—Mayor, S. L. Chapin; aldermen, south ward, B. S. Dodds, north ward, W. H. White; recorder, E. C. Schwartz; treasurer, A. Ross; justices, N. R. Reynolds, W. H. Armstrong.

1910—Mayor, C. O. Wright; aldermen, south ward, H. Bierkamp, north ward, Henry Arp; recorder, E. C. Schwartz; treasurer, A. Ross.

1911—Mayor, C. O. Wright; aldermen, south ward, B. S. Dodds, north ward, W. H. White; recorder, E. C. Schwartz; treasurer, A. Ross; justices, N. R. Reynolds, W. H. Armstrong.

During the last few years Laverne has had an uninterrupted journey on the road to prosperity. In 1905 the population was 2242, and this was increased to 2540 in 1910, making it rank fifth in size among the cities of the second congressional district. The cities having a greater population are Mankato, New Ulm, Fairmont and Winnebago.⁴⁵

⁴¹Including \$10,000 for the Carnegie library; \$20,000 for A. D. LaDue's residence; \$15,000 for improvements on P. E. Brown's residence.

⁴²The commissioners were A. P. Adams, J. W. Gerber (who succeeded William Bateson), E. H. Canfield, M. W. Chunn, A. J. Daley, W. N. Davidson, R. B. Hinkly, E. H. Holbert, T. E. Jones, Frank Johnston, J. A. Kennicott, John Kelley, H. J. Miller, C. A. Mead, S. B. Nelson.

⁴³Aldermen serve two-year terms. After the first election one alderman was elected from each ward each year.

⁴⁴Resigned November 7, 1905. At a special election November 21 John H. Sanders was named his successor.

⁴⁵Population of some of the other cities of the congressional district, according to the 1910 census, are as follows: Fairmont, 2958; Winnebago, 2555; Pipestone, 2475; Worthington, 2385; Blue Earth, 2318; Sleepy Eye, 2247; Jackson, 1907; Windom, 1749; Slayton, 850.



CHAPTER X.

LUVERNE'S INSTITUTIONS.

THE SCHOOLS.

THE founding of a public school in a new settlement is always a matter of primary importance and one that is given early consideration. So it was in Luverne. Even before there was thought of a town, in the period when the only building marking the site of Rock county's leading town was the Philo Hawes log cabin, the teacher was in evidence. So early as the winter of 1868-69, a class of young men met at irregular intervals to receive the fundamentals of knowledge from E. N. Darling, who spent that season in the Hawes cabin. The young men who formed the primitive Luverne school were Charles O. Hawes, Edward McKenzie, J. C. Kelley, Horace Plum, Frank Beaty and a young man who lived with Sylvester Norton.

Before the first public school in the county was organized, the Hawes cabin was again put to use in the interests of education. In November, 1870, C. E. Older, a new arrival to the county, was persuaded to hold a term of school, the four pupils enrolled guaranteeing his salary. On the roll of this school, which was in continuous session until March, 1871, were Edward McKenzie, at the time county auditor; Charles O. Hawes, Len. Daniels and P. F. Kelley. Mr. Older's pri-

vate school may rightly be designated the first organized educational body in Luverne and Rock county.

Several months after the opening of Mr. Older's school, the first public school that included the settlement at Luverne and vicinity was started. It was conducted for a short term during the winter of 1870-71 in a sod blacksmith shop on the farm of George Blasdell, a mile east of town, near what is known as Norton's ford. Ren. Vickers was the teacher employed, and the enrollment numbered six boys and girls. This school was in operation several months before the county commissioners created the district, an action that was taken in February, 1871. During the following summer Miss Ella Webber conducted a school in the same district in a sod hut near the mounds. District No. 2, as originally created, included all of Luverne township, the west half of Magnolia township and the south half of Mound township.

With the increase in the population of Luverne during the year of its founding, came the necessity for a suitable public school building. The original edifice was erected late in the year 1872 and was built of lumber hauled from Worthington. The building was erected on block 3, original

plat, four lots in which had been donated for the purpose by the townsite proprietors.¹ The first term of school in the new building was commenced in April, 1873, with Miss Jennie Grout as teacher, and with an enrollment of twenty-five pupils. The school building was a two-story structure, 22x38 feet in size. As it was not necessary to utilize the second story for school purposes at once, that room was leased to the county for offices and became the first seat of Rock county government. Laverne's first school building was destroyed by fire in December, 1875. A party of grain haulers on their way from Sioux Falls to Worthington camped in the building over night and were responsible for the disaster.

Preparations were at once made to replace the old building, but the resulting action proved most unwise. With an eye only to the conditions of the present, the electors appropriated funds for a one-story building, of only one apartment. The plan was carried into execution, but not without many protests. The growth of the town within one year exhibited the folly of the procedure. Accommodations could be found for only a limited portion of the school population, and until the situation was relieved in 1882, when the present Central building was opened, the public school system was an unenviable one. In addition to the edifice designated as the school house,² the basement of the Methodist church and various public halls were utilized for school purposes.

Until the summer of 1878 the Laverne schools were maintained under the ordinary district organization. Then it was

decided to adopt the independent district plan, which had been provided by the legislature of 1872. An election was held August 26, 1878, at which it was decided unanimously to make the change to the new form of organization. Seventeen votes were cast. On September 13, a board of six directors was chosen as follows: J. S. Wheeler, E. D. Hadley, O. D. Brown, R. O. Crawford, J. A. Harroun and W. J. Taylor. At the first meeting of the board Mr. Hadley was chosen president, Mr. Harroun, clerk, and Mr. Crawford, treasurer.³ The first problem with which the new body was confronted was how to dispose of 200 students with a school house having a capacity for ninety.

The building of a serviceable school house, which necessity demanded, became a live issue in 1880. A meeting was held April 9 to decide whether or not the district should vote \$2500 for the erection of a new school house. The measure was lost, but at the same meeting another resolution, providing for the sum of \$6000, was carried. The matter, however, developed no further that year, and the old building was used the next term. On February 8, 1881, the electors of the district expressed their approval of a plan to erect a new building, but failed to vote the bonds, the necessary two-thirds majority not assenting. At another meeting on March 23 the proposition to build an addition to the old building failed to carry, and the year 1881 passed without the needed improvement. Definite action was taken February 21, 1882, when, by a vote of 45 to 19, it was decided to issue bonds in the sum of \$10,000 to carry out the

¹The seven remaining lots of the block that at the time constituted the school grounds near the present point of intersection of the Omaha and Rock Island railroad tracks were a little later purchased by the district for \$100.

²This second school building is now a part of the Lynch harness shop on Main street.

³Owing to the loss of the early school records it is impossible to give a complete list of those who have served as members of the Laverne

board of education. The following have been members at different times since 1880: W. M. Richmond, E. D. Canfield, R. O. Crawford, E. D. Hadley, J. H. Lee, Nels Nelson, W. H. Halbert, F. C. Mahoney, Mrs. E. C. Crosby, Mrs. Z. E. Wilson, E. H. Erickson, J. A. Harroun, William Jacobson, J. C. Hodgson, H. J. Thomsen, C. Dejeu, A. P. Adams, Dr. A. E. Soadling, John Kelley, H. Gray, Harrison White, A. D. LaDuc, C. O. Hawes, S. B. Nelson, J. A. Kennicott, O. E. Ferguson, H. W. Bertram.

plans. A few weeks later an additional appropriation of \$1100 for the purchase of a site was made. The brick structure erected in 1882 by Contractor Frank Thayer is the south wing of the present Central building. It contained three school rooms and a basement and was occupied for the first time on Monday, November 13, 1882. Three years later it became imperative to again increase the school facilities. An addition, corresponding in style to the original, was annexed to the Central building, at a cost of \$1000, including a new heating system. J. H. Lyttle and P. N. Gillham were the contractors. They completed the Central building as it stands today in January, 1886.

The superintendents of the Luverne schools who have succeeded Prof. Folsenbe, with the date of service, have been as follows: W. P. Crannell, 1883-84; S. A. Merritt, 1884-87; Z. N. Vaughn, 1887-89; George E. Leslie, 1889-91; E. H. Roberts, 1891-94; C. E. Guthrie, 1894-98; Frank E. Dean, 1898-01; C. E. Young, 1901-05; George B. Halverson, 1905-08; J. L. Torrens, 1908-11.

The graduates of the Luverne high school are as follows:

- 1888—Laura Huntington, Sampson Statt.
- 1889—Arthur E. Huntington, George L. Huntington, Abbie Parriott, Elva Powers.
- 1890—Emily Brown, Lucius Headley.
- 1891—Blanche Burley, Anna Crawford, Frank Hinkly, Kate Ryals.
- 1892—Guy Huntington, Myra Kilpatrick, Mary Jones, Belle Moreland.
- 1893—Albert Adams, Mary Blodgett, Ophelia Oestern, Gertie Saxton, Abbey Mather, Nellie Strever, Marie A. Roberts.
- 1894—May Fasset, Clifton Glass, Effie Jacobsen, Margaret Jones, Jesse Kilpatrick, James McCarthy, Minnie Miercost, Thurman Moreland, Charles Olds, Jessie Preston, Buel Way, Ben Webber.
- 1895—Edia A. Headley.
- 1896—Bertha Bogue, Lillian Gilbert, Robert Gilbert, Nellie Hodgson, Raymond Kilpatrick, Laura Mahoney, Alice Olds, Sadie Parriott, Fred Welch.
- 1897—Robert A. Crawford, Blanche Gillham, Reeda M. Hazard, C. Clinton Hoagland, William Jacobsen, Jr., Inga M. Kartrude, Hattie D. Jones, Ella M. McCarthy, John H. McMillan, Eva B. Moulton, Frank E. Older, Arthur B. Preston.
- 1898—Matt Baldwin, Norma Bates, Lillian Burleigh, Phoebe Coon, Walter Crawford, Courtney Glass, Mattie Henton, Carrie Hurd, Ethel Hyke, Adam Jargo, Minnie Kilpatrick, Nellie Morse, Bessie Myrick, Hattie McCarthy, Homer Preston, Lottie Rice, Karl Way, Clara Woodrow.
- 1899—Mona A. Berry, Laura E. Hinkly, E. Franziska McDermott, Cleon D. Smith, Alice I. Smith.
- 1900—Leon R. Adams, Anna M. Armstrong, Edwin A. Ayer, Maude M. Brockway, Royden M. Brockway, Luvena L. Brockway, Alice D. Burleigh, Guy H. Burlingame, Leonard H. Jacobsen, Mabel Kilpatrick, Harriett McKay, Katie E. Teetor, Grant A. White, Herbert E.

In the spring of 1881 the Luverne public schools were reorganized under the state grading system, with four departments. This work was accomplished under the superintendency of L. E. Folsenbe, who was in charge of the schools from 1880 to 1883.⁴ In July, 1883, the Luverne school board made application for state aid under the legislative act of March 3, 1881, for the encouragement of higher education. The application was granted and resulted in the establishment of the Luverne high school, an institution unexcelled in the state. Two hundred thirty-nine pupils have, up to the present writing, been graduated from the high school.⁵ An alumni association was formed in January, 1892.

Doolittle, Frank M. McCarthy, Franklin R. McMillan, Fannie A. Minor, Rosa M. Oestern.

1901—James H. Armstrong, Ruth Bronson, Harry M. Burlingame, Lillian M. Crane, A. C. Croft, Leroy E. Doolittle, Hattie E. Grout, Sara M. Jones, Edna E. Miller, Mildred C. Ryan, Emma J. Willard, Carl J. Woodrow, Maud E. Cheslev, Tillie C. Dietrich, Vernon Ganfield, William B. Hickly, Walter J. Jacobsen, May C. Marsden, Thomas V. Sheehan, R. May Walters.

1902—James Brady, Lynn Gillham, Edward Hawes, Thomas Kellef, Ida G. Jones, Myrtle Jones, Amelia Steinfeldt.

1903—Theodore Berry, Blanche Abbey, Mary Connell, Nina Farrington, Mamie Gavin, Alma Hagedorn, Rae Hyke, Florence Kennedy, Lewis Norelius, Eleanor Harroun.

1904—Lee Abbey, Alice Anson, Alvah Brockway, Rollo Cobban, Mary Innes, Thomas Larkin, Effie McMillan, William Norelius, Emil Norelius, Jessie Vickerman, Lennie Woodrow, Emily Soutar.

1905—Sprague Chapin, Edith Gittens, Inde Greene, Nora Jacobsen, Vera McGrath, Anna Mickelson, Jessie Philbrick, Clare Philbrick, Luella Swedberg, Hazel Purcell, Augusta Norelius, Maude Walters, Viola Woodrow.

1906—Edythe C. Brockway, Jennie E. Gittens, Lillian A. Hvid, Luella I. Jones, Lucy J. White, Lavina R. Adams, Edmund S. Adams, Amice H. Cobban, Ellen E. Crowe, Gladys E. Fink, Jessie O. Halbert, Nellie H. Kennedy, M. Roy Swedberg.

1907—Ida M. Broten, Hazel F. Brown, Susan K. Brown, Harold E. Dunn, Maude E. Grimes, Margaret E. McGrath, Elabert Miller, Althea Reid, Agnes Anson, Ora M. Beaty, Walter O. Daley, Henry S. Greene, Lucy M. Adams, Clarence E. Swenson, Floy M. Gibson, Margaret A. Peteler.

1908—Elmer F. Cummings, Melkeor U. S. Kjørhaug, Jessie L. Jacobsen, Margaret Innes, B. Elinor Sheehan, Grace A. Soutar, Hulda C. Swedberg, Laura B. Fasset, Beatrice M. Hyke, Lloyd D. Long, Cleo M. Stanton, Dot N. L. Webber, Truma F. Brockway, Myrtle Brewer, Susie C. Farrington, Elmer J. Kennedy, Alice M. Lemka, Paul J. Preston.

1909—Winnifred Anderson, Clarence Loose, Genevieve Carver, Verra Tangeman, Edna Norelius, Lillian Jones, Mary Noonan, Fern Philbrick, Kenneth Kennicott, Mamie Pease, Charles Sipes, Jessie Wiggins, Irving Cummings, Willard John-

In time the Central building, too, became inadequate to the needs of the growing town for educational purposes. It was necessary to secure rooms in different halls of the town only a few years after the addition was completed. In May, 1893, the proposition to issue bonds to the amount of \$3000 to build another addition was defeated by a vote of 46 to 19. In the course of another year decisive measures for the erection of a second building were taken. Bonds in the sum of \$20,000 were voted September 24, 1894. 123 electors balloting in favor of the proposition, and 37 against. The board of education purchased a site for \$1750 in October; in November W. D. McLaughlin was employed as architect; and in March, 1895, the contract for the erection of the building was awarded to Greene & Gillham. The handsome stone building, now used almost entirely as the high school, was ready for occupancy in November, 1895. Within the last few years both of the Luverne public school buildings have been remodeled and enlarged and are modern and fully equipped in every particular. Luverne has a public school system unrivaled by any other city of its class in the state.

THE CHURCHES.

Eleven church societies maintain organizations in Luverne, and of these all except one are established in their own houses of worship. The societies represented in the county seat city are Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian, Catholic, Norwegian Lutheran (Synod), Norwegian

Lutheran (United), Unitarian, Episcopal, German Lutheran, Norwegian Lutheran (Free) and Christian Science.

The pioneer church of Luverne is the Methodist, which has now arrived at the thirty-eighth year of its existence. Included among the early settlers in Beaver Creek township was a company of devout followers of John Wesley, who in the summer of 1872 brought about the organization of a Sunday school and Methodist class. It was at the request of this religious company that Rev. E. H. Bronson came from Wisconsin to supervise the cause of the Methodists in Rock county. The announcement of the elder's coming prompted the few Methodists in Luverne to make plans for a church organization, to which Rev. Bronson would minister. Through the activity of those interested a conference, in charge of Presiding Elder Wright, was held in the village school house May 24 and 25, 1873, to discuss the feasibility of the undertaking.⁶

Rev. Bronson arrived June 17, 1873, and three days later, on Sunday, preached to his new congregations, holding services in the Beaver Creek settlement and in Luverne. At the close of the meetings of the day the minister completed the work of organization, the members of the two congregations uniting to form one church society.

The lot of a pioneer clergyman in a new and untempered country is always one that can only demand hardihood of the strongest fibre. The experience of Rock county's earliest established pastor is a case in point. For six weeks the "parson-

son, Marie Keegan, Ray Hodgson, Marietta Johnson, Estelle Philbrick, Eva King.
1910—Guy W. Morse, C. Edwin Baker, Mary E. Byrne, Roy H. Cummings, Nina M. Ferguson, Earl E. Strever, Esmonde L. Connell, Bernice E. Davidson, Lily K. Franklin, H. Stanley Löffler, Lillian E. Lynch, Meta Rathjen, Eunice E. Woodrow.

⁶"It is announced that a session of the quarterly conference of the Methodist church will be held in the school house in this place on the twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth of this month, in charge of Rev. Wright, of Mankato.

presiding elder of the conference. We understand that one or more preachers, besides the presiding elder, will be present. We are to have a minister of this denomination located in the community at an early day. We are reliably informed that he is now on his way hither. We hope he does not imagine that he is a missionary going to spread the gospel among the heathen, for in times past we have been accustomed to the 'sound of the church-going bell' and will again rejoice to obey its summons to the house of worship. We have a school house, and now let us have a meeting house." Rock County Herald, May 23, 1873.

age" which gave shelter to Rev. Bronson was a wagon cover, utilized from the equipment of some emigrant train. He organized churches and classes in Springwater, Kanaranzi, Ellsworth, Ashcreek, Magnolia and other places, all being grouped under the general name of the Luverne circuit, and for a number of years the one man supplied the many charges.

Each separate organized church in the Luverne circuit elected delegates to sit on the board of trustees and stewards for the whole, which convened at stated intervals in Luverne to take up matters of church importance. Such an organization existed for four and one-half years, when the union was dissolved and the churches given the privilege of developing as independent units.

Late in December, 1873, the Luverne Methodist church became a corporate body as a result of the recording of the certificate of organization with the register of deeds. The first board of trustees, elected the first Sunday in November, consisted of C. R. Henton, Bishop I. Crossman, Charles Williams, T. P. Grout, Joseph Forbes, J. Gillard, Philo Hawes, Amos Estey and Joseph Knight. The question of erecting a church edifice in 1873 was a matter of discussion, but resulted in no action, although one of the townsite proprietors pledged a suitable site and a donation of \$100 to the first church society to build in Luverne.

For a period of four years following organization the Methodist society worshipped in the school building. On July 24, 1877, the project for a church building was successfully launched. Subscriptions to the amount of \$2000 were secur-

ed.⁷ A building committee was appointed, and the work of construction commenced soon after. The season was one of hard times, and the committee was forced to solve some grave financial problems in order to continue the work. The brick church, which still serves the society, was sufficiently completed by December 1, 1877, to permit the holding of services in the basement. On Sunday, August 5, 1883, the church was dedicated free of debt. The dedication was made by Bishop Foss, of Minneapolis, assisted by Bishop Samuel Fallows, of Chicago. The cost of the completed structure approximated \$5000. Improvements and alterations amounting to about \$3000 were made in 1905, following which, on June 18, the church was impressively rededicated by Rev. G. H. Bridgeman, D. D., president of Hamline university.

Rev. Bronson served the church as pastor from 1873 to 1877, and was assisted during the final year of his active ministry by Rev. J. M. Bull.⁸

For several years the Methodist was the only church organization in Luverne, although from time to time ministers of other faiths preached to their following among the population. The year 1875 witnessed the beginning of the Luverne Baptist church.

At a Sunday school picnic, on Saturday, July 3, 1875, Elder A. W. Hilton, of Turner county, South Dakota, learned from three members of the Beaver Creek settlement who were present, O. A. Huliett, William Ells and Thomas Jones, of the existence in Rock county of a strong Baptist following that was desirous of perfecting a closer union. An appointment was made with Mr. Hilton to hold

⁷James Preston, T. P. Grout, James Gillard and W. H. Glass contributed the first one thousand dollars to the building fund.

⁸The following have been succeeding pastors of the Methodist church: J. W. Lewis, 1877-78; Peter Claire, 1878-79; H. W. Pease, 1879; J. Thomas Murrish, 1880-81; W. F. Means, 1881-82;

Samuel Cates, 1882; T. W. Butler, 1883-84; E. R. Lathrop, 1884-85; D. Seymour, 1885-86; Noah B. Foot, 1886-89; Oliver Williams, 1889-92; Rev. Harris, 1892-93; T. H. Scheckler, 1893-95; J. W. Cornish, 1895-97; T. A. Jones, 1897-01; C. A. Anderson, 1901-03; William Burns, 1903-04; E. Z. Durham, 1905; L. H. Woodworth, 1906-08; Ross L. Finney, 1908-09; C. W. Morse, 1909-11.

services on Sunday, July 11. On the afternoon of that day Mr. Hilton preached at the home of J. H. Stearns, near Valley Springs, and in the evening at Laverne. Two weeks later, on June 25, Mr. Hilton again conducted services at Laverne. At the close of this meeting, which was held at the school house, a church organization was decided upon, and the following eleven persons were received as members: Mrs. Elizabeth Norton, Mrs. Cordelia Brockway, William Ells, Mrs. Lydia Ells, Albert E. Snow, Sidney Hulett, O. A. Hulett, Mrs. A. C. Croft, Estella Ells, Mrs. Emily James and Mrs. Laura Spalding. Mr. Ells was chosen deacon and Mrs. A. C. Croft, church clerk. Mr. Hilton was elected to the pastorate and consented to come from his home in South Dakota to preach every two weeks. Over twenty-five additions were made to the membership before the close of the year 1875.

At an election held in October, 1875, a board of trustees, consisting of Sylvester Norton, B. F. Roderick, H. Hall, P. J. Kniss and A. C. Croft, was elected as a preparatory step to incorporation and the erection of a church building. In May, 1876, a committee of seven was appointed to canvass Rock county for funds with which to erect a building. Lots were donated by P. J. Kniss and A. J. Warren. By the opening of winter the foundation of the proposed structure was laid. The building was slow in reaching completion, owing to the depression incident to the grasshopper scourge, which seriously affected the payment of subscriptions to the building fund. Timely aid in the form of a carload of lumber was received from Horace Thompson and E. F. Drake, of St. Paul. The winter of

1877-78 found the house of worship enclosed and plastered, but without seats or means of heating, but these necessities were supplied before the end of spring.

The constitution and articles of incorporation were adopted by the church body on June 24, 1877. One year later, in June, 1878, the Laverne church was admitted into membership by the Minnesota Valley association. The cost of the church edifice approximated \$3500, and the dedication ceremony was postponed until the entire indebtedness had been paid. The event occurred on July 26, 1885, when was celebrated the tenth anniversary of the church's organization. The services on this occasion were conducted by Rev. J. Sunderland, state Baptist missionary. A north wing was added to the church building in 1902 at a cost of about \$2500. The money for this purpose was donated by the Baptist society of Beaver Creek, which on disbanding sold its church building and donated the proceeds to the sister society in Laverne. The present membership of the Baptist church is 130. Since its organization there have been 427 names recorded on the membership roll. Mrs. L. B. Kniss has been the church clerk without interruption since 1879.²

Of the three Norwegian Lutheran churches in Laverne, the Synod society is the oldest. So far back in the county's history as 1872 can be traced the beginnings of this organization. Among the pioneers of Rock county were quite a number of Norwegians who had been brought up in the Lutheran faith in their native land and were desirous of perpetuating the Lutheran form of service in their new home. An informal church organization was maintained by several

²The list of pastors who have held the pastoral office is as follows: A. W. Hilton, 1875-77; J. W. Reese, 1877-78; J. P. McManis, 1879-81; J. W. Reese, 1881-82; Cyrus Thomas, 1882-88; G. K. Varney, 1888 June to August; A. E. Hop-

kins, 1888-89; Russell S. Stegert, 1889-91; J. P. McManis, 1891-92; C. W. Leck, 1891-92; C. E. Proulx, 1892-97; J. A. Mordness, 1898-02; Chas. Leitch, 1902-07; J. C. Curry, 1907-10; W. H. Bertram, 1910-11.



SOME LUVERNE CHURCHES

families, services were held from time to time at convenient places, and occasionally a minister of their denomination was present.

Rev. O. O. Sando, who came to Luverne in 1873, and preached frequently thereafter to the little congregation, was instrumental in effecting a regular church organization. The society was organized June 1, 1876, as the Luverne Norwegian Evangelical congregation, and the following were received as first members: B. S. Wold, Engebret Evensen, Gahr Aanensen, O. A. Plomasen, Isak Isaksen, Jacob Aanensen and Rasmus Halvorsen. Rev. Sando was duly installed as the first pastor.¹⁹

For ten years the Synod church was without a home of its own and held its services in different halls of the town. The corner stone for the present edifice, on the corner of Freeman avenue and Luverne street, was laid October 3, 1886. The building committee consisted of Rev. A. O. Thurmo, K. Egge and Andreas Erickson. The structure, erected at a cost of \$2500, was first occupied for services March 25, 1887. In 1882, before the church was built, the society purchased a dwelling to be used as the manse. Two other churches are served by the pastor of the Luverne church: the one at Kenneth, and the Trefoldighed church of Rose Belt township.

St. Catherine's Catholic church of Luverne is another organization whose history begins in the seventies. Among the early day settlers were the Catholic families of McDermotts, Ryans, McCarthys, Lynchs, Fitzgeralds, Hykes, McKeons and others, who banded themselves together for the purpose of worship. A petition for a regular pastor addressed to Bishop Ireland in 1873 was answered. Father Knauf was assigned to the field.

Many of the early day services of the society were held at the home of Lawrence McDermott, at the mounds, and in the public halls of Luverne. Under the pastorate of Father Fox, late in 1880, the first church edifice was erected at a cost of several thousand dollars. The pastors in charge of the parish since Father Fox have been Fathers Keefe, Dowling, Dwyer, Engelbert, McDonough, Hartlieb, Walsh and Mangan.

St. Catherine's church of today is the largest and handsomest in the county. The first steps toward its erection were taken in April, 1908. The corner stone of the building was laid September 8, 1908, and it was brought to completion in December of that year. The cost of the imposing structure was \$20,000 and it was dedicated free of debt on Wednesday, August 18, 1909. Sixteen visiting clergymen were in attendance at the ceremonies, and the dedicatory sermon was preached by Rev. Father William Griffin, of Ellsworth. The foundation walls of the edifice are of red jasper from the mound quarries and are overtopped by a superstructure of buff colored pressed brick, trimmed with white stone.

The very first religious service held in Rock county was conducted by a Presbyterian minister, Dr. Rice, and occurred in the summer of 1868. Dr. Rice had accompanied a party of government surveyors which was operating in Rock county that year and found there a few scattered settlers. To an audience numbering scarce a dozen, including members of the visiting party, Dr. Rice, on August 12, preached from a position on the summit of the Blue mounds, and in these most characteristic surroundings gave an exposition of Christ's sermon on the mount.

The initial steps in the formation of a Presbyterian church in Luverne were

¹⁹The pastors of the Synod church have been: O. O. Sando, 1876-78; O. A. Naeseth, 1878-81;

A. O. Thurmo, 1882-94; J. H. Lund, 1894-02; S. Berge, 1901-09; L. P. Lund, 1909-11.

taken during the late seventies. Among the pioneer ministers of that denomination to visit the town and promote the agitation for a church organization were Revs. D. C. Lyon and Edward Savage. In May, 1878, Rev. Charles Thayer was stationed by the state synod as missionary in Rock county. As a result of a few months' labor, on October 28, 1878, Rev. Thayer received a petition signed by nine persons, requesting him to proceed with the regular organization of a Presbyterian church in Luverne. To this end a meeting was held November 17, which resulted most successfully. The following thirteen persons entered into fellowship with one another and were received as members of the first Presbyterian church: Mrs. Mary J. Loomis, Mrs. Lucy A. Spalding, Mrs. Belle Rice, Lafayette Palmer, Pardon E. Brown, wife and daughter, Nelson R. Reynolds and wife, Rev. Charles Thayer, wife and son Martin, and Mrs. Bullis.¹¹

Under the direction of Rev. John Munro, who succeeded Rev. Thayer, a church building, the fourth in Luverne, was erected in 1881 at a cost of \$1730. The sanctuary was dedicated, unencumbered, on Sunday, April 16, 1882, by Rev. Thomas Campbell. This original building served the purposes of the society for sixteen years. The present handsome church edifice of the Presbyterians was erected in 1899, and cost, complete, \$5300. The corner stone of the structure was laid November 20, 1898, by Dr. Thayer, the first pastor, and the dedication took place September 17, 1899. The building is well appointed, with gallery and large lecture room, and has a seating capacity of 550. The present membership of the Presbyterian church is about 135.

As the result of a call, signed by seventeen persons, for a meeting of those interested in the organization of a United Norwegian Lutheran church and the resultant meeting, which was held July 19, 1884, Luverne became the home of a second Norwegian speaking church. At the initial meeting a committee was appointed to secure a pastor for the congregation. Prior to the organization, services had been conducted from time to time by Rev. H. Z. Hvid.

Our Saviour's United Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran church was incorporated in July, 1886, the trustees elected to carry out this design being J. O. Helgeson, O. Lund and O. J. Oestern. The society worshipped in private homes and in the court house for many years, until 1898, when the church on the corner of McKenzie and Luverne streets was erected at a cost of \$2000. The building was occupied for the first time on Sunday, August 7, 1898.

The first regular pastor of the church was Rev. H. Wang, who served from 1884 to 1890. He was succeeded in the latter year by Rev. Th. Fossum, who was in charge for fifteen years. From 1905 to 1908 the pastor was N. O. Rogver. The present minister, Rev. J. Mundahl, located in Luverne in August, 1909.

On Sunday, October 31, 1886, the first Unitarian service in Luverne was conducted by Rev. J. R. Effinger, of Chicago. Interest in the movement was awakened, and a series of meetings was arranged, held under the leadership of Rev. S. S. Hunting, of Des Moines. As an outcome the Unity Congregational church of Luverne was organized December 10, 1886. The first board of trustees, consisting of E. H. Canfield, R. E. Moreland, George

¹¹The pastors who have occupied the Presbyterian pulpit, with dates of service, have been Charles Thayer, 1878-80; John Munro, 1880-83; Rev. Laverly, 1883-84; John C. Henderson, 1884-

85; William Miller, 1885-87; S. A. Jamison, 1887-92; Arthur M. Smith, 1892-94; John McArthur, 1894-96; William J. Johnson, 1896-99; Frank L. Fraser, 1899-03; Augustus H. Carver, 1903-11.

B. Brace, F. C. Mahoney and A. M. Crosby, was elected at that time.

Rev. Hunting served as missionary pastor of the new society until July, 1887, when he was succeeded by Rev. Mary Wilkes. The "Unity Society" of Luverne became a corporate body July 21, 1888. Just prior to this a building committee of three members, F. C. Mahoney, A. M. Crosby and E. H. Canfield, was chosen. The erection of a church was commenced in April, 1899; the corner stone was laid May 10; the first service therein was held July 14; and the formal dedication occurred Sunday, October 20, that event occasioning a noteworthy gathering of eminent Unitarian ministers. The lot and building complete cost \$4765. Of this amount the pastor, Mrs. Wilkes, raised \$2000 in the east, and \$2500 of the balance was contributed by fifty-one citizens of Luverne, in subscriptions ranging from \$5 to \$200 each.

The Unity church has not held regular services since the last pastor, Rev. B. A. Hills, removed from the field in October, 1908. A Sunday school was organized simultaneously with the church and is still continued. Ten years ago the Sunday school at Luverne was distinguished as being the largest Unitarian Sunday school in the state. The society was bequeathed the house and lot adjoining the church on the west by the late George W. Snook, and the income from that property is to be forever used in the support of the Sunday school.

The first event to mark the birth of Holy Trinity Episcopal church of Luverne was the visit of Rev. D. Griffin Gunn, of Worthington, in March, 1883. At that time he conducted a service of the Episcopalian form in the Presbyterian church. Interest in the matter of

organizing an Episcopal church was aroused during the few succeeding years, and services were held from time to time by visiting ministers.

Holy Trinity Parish was organized June 25, 1891, at which time Rev. C. S. Ware, who had supplied at intervals, was chosen as the first rector. The first vestry, elected at this time, consisted of N. R. Reynolds, senior warden; T. E. Jones, junior warden; W. H. Wilson, J. W. Gerber, J. W. Millhouse and R. B. Hinkly. The erection of a church home was agreed upon, and on August 19, 1891, Bishop Gilbert and Rev. Ware laid the corner stone of the structure. The building, of stone construction, was completed late in the fall, at a cost of \$6000. The dedication ceremonies did not eventuate until six years later, when it was accomplished with the indebtedness cleared. The event took place Monday, November 7, 1897, Bishop Gilbert officiating. The parish owns a rectory, bought in 1906 with funds raised for the most part through the efforts of the ladies' guild.¹²

St. John's German Evangelical Lutheran church commenced its life on July 12, 1891. Services had been held prior to that time, but not with any regularity or as a united congregation. At the organization meeting ten persons were received into membership. They were John Ahrendt, Bernhard Ahrendt, Albert Ahrendt, Henry Meyer, Anton Roeder, William Stelling, Carl Kurth, William Mann, Carl Mannigel and Henry C. Sodemann. The first board of trustees was made up of Bernhard Ahrendt, William Stelling and Henry Meyer.

The Synod Norwegian Lutheran church was employed as a house of worship by the German organization until the society erected a building of its own in the fall

¹²The Episcopal church has been ministered to by the following six regularly installed rectors: C. S. Ware, 1891-94; F. W. White, 1894-96; W.

E. Couper, 1897-00; W. Parry-Thomas, 1901-04; W. A. Dennis, 1905-09; J. D. Salter, 1910-11.

of 1895 at a cost of \$1000. The dedication took place December 10, 1895. In 1906 a commodious parsonage was added to the church property. In its history of twenty years St. John's church has had only two pastors: Rev. H. C. Brinkman, the organizing minister, and Rev. H. W. Baumann, the present incumbent, who succeeded to the charge in 1898. The pastor also has under his charge Trinity German Lutheran church at Steen and a mission post at Beaver Creek. A parochial school is maintained, in charge of the pastor.

A church of the Christian society existed in Laverne for a few years in the late nineties. The organization was perfected on January 8, 1897. During the following year a small church building, valued at \$1100, was erected. The dedication occurred December 12, 1898. At the time of its greatest prosperity the society had a membership of forty. Owing largely to removals, the number became depreciated to such an extent that the organization was disbanded after a few years' life, and the church building was sold.

The third Norwegian Lutheran church in Laverne dates its existence from 1904. This is the Free church, incorporated as the Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Zion's Society. Six or seven former members of the local United church formed the nucleus of the organization. A frame structure, 30x40 feet in size, was erected by the society for a church home in 1905. Three years later when the Catholics moved into their new church, the building vacated by them was purchased by the Free Lutherans and moved to the site of the original church home it supplanted. There are about fifteen families represented in the membership of the church.

The Christian Science society is the only established religious organization in

Laverne without a home of its own. This society was reorganized in 1905. Services are held every Sunday in A. O. U. W. hall.

THE LODGES.

The first lodge organized in Laverne was the Masonic, which began its existence when the town was in its infancy, a community thirty miles from the nearest railroad. In October, 1873, the initial steps toward the organization of the pioneer lodge were taken, and at a meeting held on March 4, 1874, the lodge was placed under dispensation by the Grand lodge of Minnesota. Officers to serve during this period of its existence were chosen as follows: E. N. Darling, W. M.; W. E. Vary, J. W.; E. D. Hadley, S. W.; Charles F. Crosby, S. D.; R. O. Crawford, J. D.; A. L. March, T.; William Jacobsen, C.

The charter for Ben Franklin Lodge No. 114, A. F. & A. M., was granted January 13, 1875, and following its formal organization the following officers were installed: Charles F. Crosby, W. M.; Robert Herren, S. W.; E. D. Hadley, J. W.; A. L. Marsh, secretary; U. F. Hinds, treasurer; E. N. Darling, S. D.; William Jacobsen, J. D.; R. O. Crawford, S. S.; Stewart Young, J. S.; J. F. Shoemaker, tyler; A. J. Bartlett, chaplain. The present membership of Ben Franklin lodge is seventy-one.

A second Masonic order, Laverne Commandery No. 22, Knights Templar, dates its existence from 1891. The dispensation for its establishment was ordered in February, and in June the charter was received. The first regular meeting of the Commandery was held March 23, 1891. Mark Swedberg served as the first eminent commander.

On October 14, 1892, a petition signed by twenty-four Masons and their wives

requested a charter for a lodge of the Eastern Star. Prompt action was taken by the state authorities and on December 11, 1892, Laverne Chapter No. 47, O. E. S., was instituted by Dr. W. S. Webb, of Worthington. The first officers and charter members, numbering twenty, were Olivia A. Halbert, worthy matron; Myra Bronson, associate matron; B. H. Hinkly, patron; Della E. Halbert, conductress; Hattie S. Kelley, associate conductress; E. C. Hinkly, treasurer; Ella T. Randall, secretary; J. E. Darling, elector; M. A. Hinds, warden; B. Knapp, sentinel; Sophia Bryan, Martha; Lizzie C. Swedberg, Esther; Kate E. Bruce, Adah; Nancy A. Meyers, Ruth; L. L. Bryan, J. J. Myers, U. F. Hinds, John Kelley, E. N. Darling, Mrs. J. E. Darling.

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows has a strong following in Laverne. Three branches of the order are maintained, the first of which, Myrtle Lodge No. 67, was instituted by Past Grand Master D. A. Morrison on the evening of November 7, 1878. The following officers were installed on that occasion: C. Combs, N. G.; R. M. Click, V. G.; H. J. Cone, R. S.; W. J. Taylor, P. S.; C. W. Held, treasurer; C. C. Drew, R. S. to N. G.; P. F. Kelley, L. S. to N. G.; J. Marvin, warden; D. Stone, conductor; James Crowell, I. G.; Rev. Charles Thayer, chaplain. The lodge has a present membership of 167.

Laverne Encampment No. 11 was organized August 27, 1896, the work being conducted by Grand Chief Patriarch W. W. Trafton. The charter members and first officers were Martin Webber, C. P.; L. H. Way, S. W.; Christian Heinz, J. W.; B. S. Dodds, F. S.; E. S. Rogers, R. S.; Henry Hofelmann, H. P.; R. J. Stephen, treasurer; H. P. Blasdell, W. M. Hewett, W. T. Goodhue, E. J. Schmidt, W. A. McDowell.

The youngest of the branches in Odd

Fellowship is Canton Laverne No. 19, which was instituted February 24, 1910, with thirty-five charter members. The initial members and the first officers were: J. L. Snook, Jr., ensign; E. C. Schwartz, captain; C. N. Philbrick, lieutenant; J. E. Lamm, guard; H. C. Heinz, sentinel; T. A. Faulk, standard bearer; H. H. Hagedorn, clerk; B. S. Dodds, accountant; Sam Foight, picket; John Biss, John Meintz, William L. Stralow, W. A. McDowell, H. W. Matthews, Ferdinand Bendt, J. W. Hawkinson, W. H. White, Martin Webber, J. W. McDowell, John Kiehl, H. Kabler, C. H. Peterson, John W. Tatge, J. N. Grapes, S. Jones, Arthur Perman, John Connell, C. J. Zinn, Bert Congers, Carl Stroeh, Henry Rambosky, E. R. Vasey, Charles F. Steffen, G. W. Cottrell, C. E. Nutting. The Odd Fellows own the brick block on Main street in which are located their lodge rooms. The property was purchased in October, 1906, and is valued at \$7000.

A strong Rebekah lodge, auxiliary to the Odd Fellows, is maintained. An attempt to form such an organization was made so early as the summer of 1880, but the plans made at that time were not fulfilled. Jasper Stone Lodge No. 80 became an organized body December 1, 1892. The instituting officers were Grand Secretary A. L. Bolton, J. A. Karney and Mrs. Hammond, grand warden of South Dakota. The charter members and first officers of the order were as follows: Emma Minard, N. G.; Floretta E. Webber, V. G.; Mary Blodgett, secretary; Louise Dietrich, treasurer; Katie Merkle, I. S.; Emma Stephen, F. S.; Sarah Snook, conductress; Hannah Minard, L. S. N. G.; Martha Blodgett, R. S. V. G.; F. H. Fritz, O. S. G.; M. C. Dietrich, L. S. V. G.; Fred J. Minard, R. S. N. G.; Martin Webber, warden; R. J. Stephen, F. A. Larkin, Gus. Wehner, W. H. Andrews,

E. G. Blodgett, W. H. Snook, R. Merkle, William Minard, H. H. Welch.

Luverne has been the home of a post of the Grand Army of the Republic since the spring of 1884. Largely through the energy of Captain E. D. Hadley, a petition requesting the establishment of a post was circulated in April. It was signed by a representative number of the civil war veterans of the town. The petition was favorably received and on Friday evening, May 2, twenty-nine comrades were mustered in as the nucleus of Joe Hooker Post of Luverne, by Deputy Mustering Officer L. M. Lange, of Worthington, and R. R. Miller, junior vice department commander of Minnesota. The following officers were chosen at the initial meeting: E. D. Hadley, commander; A. C. Croft, senior vice commander; W. H. Halbert, junior vice commander; Edward McKenzie, adjutant; P. J. Kniss, quartermaster; Ezra Rice, officer of the day; Edwin Gillham, officer of the guard; P. R. Schuyler, surgeon; G. M. Henton, quartermaster sergeant; James Preston, sergeant major.

On reporting the organization to the state department, it was discovered that there was a prior claim to the name Joe Hooker post, and, accordingly, a month after its organization, the Luverne branch of the G. A. R. was given the name John A. Dix Post No. 95. The man thus honored was General John A. Dix, secretary of the treasury under President Buchanan, who at the outbreak of hostilities issued the famous order: "If any man attempts to haul down the American flag, shoot him on the spot." No order is more respected in the city than is John A. Dix Post No. 95.

The Luverne order of the G. A. R. was a year old when its auxiliary, the Women's Relief Corps, took its place among the worthy organizations of the city. Inter-

est in the movement was first awakened at a meeting held in the Methodist church on August 22, 1885, presided over by W. H. Halbert, senior vice commander of John A. Dix Post, who explained the aims and benefits of the Women's Relief Corps. At the meeting fourteen names were enrolled on the application for a charter, and the balloting for officers who should serve when the organization was perfected resulted as follows: Mrs. Mary R. Crawford, president; Mrs. A. W. Boswell, senior vice president; Mrs. Kate McKenzie, junior vice president; Mrs. Stella T. Gillham, secretary; Mrs. M. Hawes, treasurer; Mrs. James Preston, chaplain; Mrs. M. A. Hinds, director; Mrs. Della E. Halbert, conductor. The institution of the corps took place on Wednesday, September 2, 1885.

During the early eighties a lodge of the Ancient Order of United Workmen was organized but was later disbanded. The organization of Luverne Lodge No. 66 was effected December 19, 1890, when the following first officers were elected: Jens Billington, past master workman; Olaf J. Oestern, master workman; Henry A. Stone, foreman; William J. Teetor, overseer; Charles A. Baker, recorder; Henry Larson, financier; Robert O. Crawford, receiver; James E. Black, guide; Perry L. Fassett, inside watchman; William Berry, outside watchman. From twenty members at the start the lodge has progressed until now it has a membership of over 100. Up to August, 1910, Luverne Lodge had lost thirteen of its members by death.

Blue Mound Lodge No. 43, Degree of Honor, became an organized body May 14, 1895. Mrs. Mary Daley, of St. Paul, was the instituting officer. The first officers of the order, elected at the initial meeting, were Mrs. Jennie D. Walters, P. C. of H.; Mrs. Lois V. McMillan, L.

of H.; Mrs. Nettie Baker, recorder; Mrs. Orpha Blasdell, receiver; Mrs. Mary Conney, I. W.; Mrs. Cora E. Fender, C. of H.; Mrs. Ella A. Carleton, C. of C.; Mrs. Martha Oestern, financier; Mrs. Dora Rose, S. U.; Miss Kate Merkle, O. W.; O. J. Oestern, advisor; Mrs. Retta Clegg and Miss Etta Beers, maids of honor.

One of the largest and strongest fraternal organizations in Luverne is Red Jasper Camp No. 154, Modern Woodmen of America, which numbered 228 members on its rolls at the last report. The lodge was instituted June 15, 1891, with the following first officers and charter members: L. S. Nelson, V. C.; D. E. Hermon, W. A.; W. H. Randall, clerk; C. A. Delameter, watchman; F. A. Baker, sentry; J. B. Croft, banker; M. J. Phinney, C. N. Philbrick and I. Krimbill, managers; L. J. Philbrick, Henry Meyers, M. G. Pearson, A. G. Bonnett, E. E. Aney, L. K. Lee, D. N. Kutsforth, J. H. Graaf, E. G. Schmidt, E. M. Griffith, Oscar Kilgore, Henry Ferguson, I. M. Cady, Henry Fisher and G. H. Henton.

The Royal Neighbors of America, auxiliary to the Modern Woodmen, is an active organization.

A Luverne fraternal order with a record for noteworthy achievement is Luverne Lodge No. 113, Knights of Pythias, which was organized November 15, 1892, with twenty-two charter members. The lodge was instituted by Fred E. Wheaton, grand chancellor of Minnesota. Following is the initial membership roll, including the first officers of the order: E. S. Rogers, P. C.; F. H. Helener, V. C.; W. H. Randall, P.; F. E. Johnston, K. R. and S.; W. A. Shawver, M. F.; N. C. Gunderson, M. V.; J. B. Johnson, M. A.; S. B. Nelson, I. G.; T. J. McDermott, O. G.; F. E. Shafer, C. H. Pumphrey, Harper Shafer, C. W. Orvis, H. W. Rogers, Henry Meyer, E. O. Krook, Mark

Swedberg, J. C. Glynn, L. S. Nelson, J. W. Gerber, C. A. Yaeger.

The Knights of Pythias possess one of the most finely appointed lodge rooms in the state. The chambers occupy most of the second floor of an elegant business block erected by the lodge in 1908, at a cost of \$16,000. The formal dedication of Pythian Castle hall occurred July 22, 1909. A distinguishing feature of the event was the fact that the dedication ceremonies were conducted by Supreme National Chancellor H. P. Brown, of Texas. The home of the Luverne Knights is the first one in the Grand Domain of Minnesota to be so signally honored.

The Pythian Sisters Lodge (an order until a few years ago known as the Rathbone Sisters) is a flourishing organization. Luverne Temple No. 41 was granted its charter March 17, 1906. The seventeen charter members and first officers were as follows: Emma Johnston, M. E. C.; Myra Davis, P. C.; Etta Gerber, E. S.; Irene Cottrell, E. J.; Carrie Jones, manager; Nina Canfield, M. R. C.; Addie Delate, M. of F.; Ada Mae Bell, P.; Libbie Yaeger, G.; Cora Nutting, Alice Birch, Charity Hughes, Georgenia Myhre, Sarah Hafsoos, Belle Davis, Nellie Canfield, Laura Dobell.

On May 28, 1908, was organized the Luverne Homestead No. 1856, Brotherhood of American Yeomen, by J. H. Murphy, of Owatonna. The first officers and charter members were C. L. Sherman, M. of A.; Arden Canfield, foreman; Nella Canfield, correspondent; Alice Cocroft, chaplain; Christian Boisen, M. of C.; George Cottrell, Irene Cottrell, James Wiggins, Edith Wiggins.

A lodge of the American Brotherhood of America, Luverne Lodge No. 258, commenced an existence March 14, 1898. The following eight persons made up the initial membership: George W. Cottrell,

Emil Sprinsterbach, Henry C. Brandenberg, Carl Johnson, Frank G. Loose, J. H. W. Koehn, Marie Koehn, George C. Bell. The lodge was defunct for a number of years, but was renewed in May, 1910.

PUBLIC LIBRARY.

There is no town of its size that can boast of better library advantages than Luverne. Ample provision is made for the support of the institution, housed in a commodious building, the gift of Andrew Carnegie, and the liberal patronage it is accorded attests its benefits to the community.

The first attempt to found a library in Luverne was made in February, 1882, when a society known as the Rock County Library association was formed, with N. R. Reynolds as president and E. H. Canfield secretary. The plan was that each member of the association should pay twenty-five cents a month, the funds thus obtained to be used for the purchase of books. Mr. Canfield kept the books in his office and served as librarian. After an existence of several years the library ceased to be an active institution and the association was disbanded.

A permanent library system was inaugurated in May, 1887, at which time a petition was presented to the village council by a number of Luverne ladies, requesting the establishment of a public library. The council took immediate action,¹² and a library board, consisting of E. H. Bronson, A. L. Stoughton, E. H. Canfield, E. B. Burley, Mesdames William Jacobsen, George B. Huntington, W. N. Davidson, L. B. Kniss and F. C. Mahoney, was ap-

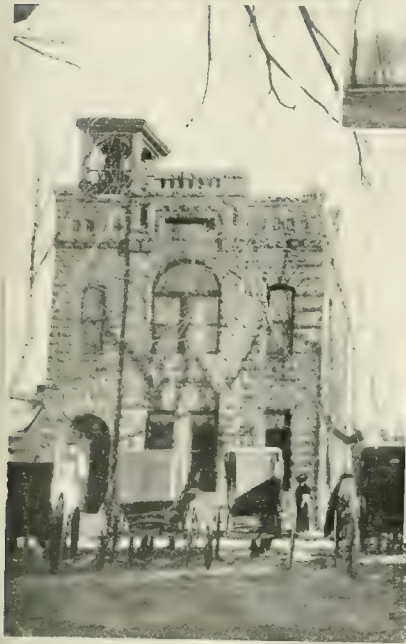
pointed,¹³ with authority to proceed under the provisions of the law. The library as established was conducted for a year in rooms over the old postoffice building, then in December, 1888, was given space on the second floor of the new city hall, a location occupied until the removal to the Carnegie building in December, 1904.

A formal request for a donation for a library building was addressed to Mr. Carnegie in March, 1903. The philanthropist responded in a few weeks, agreeing to donate \$10,000 for the purpose of a library building, provided the city would furnish a suitable site and guarantee an annual maintenance fund of \$1000. The proposition was at once accepted by the village council. The plans for the building prepared by W. E. E. Greene were accepted by the library board on September 8, 1903; the contract for its erection was awarded to P. N. Gillham on October 1; and one year later the structure was completed. With impressive ceremony the new library building was dedicated Wednesday, December 21, 1904. The library board at that time consisted of Messrs. George L. Alder, president; C. H. Christopherson, secretary; Rev. W. H. Baumann, J. H. Graaf, Mesdames L. B. Kniss, E. A. Brown, Jay A. Kennicott, Charles Johnston and P. N. Gillham. The first librarian of the Luverne public library was Mrs. W. N. Davidson, who held the office continually, with the exception of a brief period in 1891 and 1892, when Mrs. L. E. Crosby was in charge, until December, 1900. Mrs. Della Halbert, the present librarian, has served since that date.

be levied, and the same is hereby levied, for the purpose of establishing and maintaining said library."

¹²The following resolution, making provision for a library, was passed by the council August 2, 1887: "On motion it was ordered by the village council of the village of Luverne that a public library and reading room be established and maintained in said village for the use and benefit of the inhabitants thereof, pursuant to chapter 106 of the laws of the state of Minnesota for the year 1879. Ordered further, that a tax of one mill on the dollar

¹³The first library board organized January 4, 1888, by electing E. H. Bronson, president, and A. L. Stoughton, secretary. The former continued in office until August 6, 1892, when he declined re-election.



LUVERNE'S PUBLIC BUILDINGS

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

During the forty years of its existence Laverne has suffered to only a limited extent from the ravages of the fire fiend. The most serious conflagration in its history occurred in December, 1888, when four buildings in the business section were laid low by the "lurid leveler," entailing a loss not exceeding fifteen thousand dollars. Experience is a stern teacher and is too often awaited before resort to preventive measures is taken. Defects in the arrangements for fire protection are never excusable. Should the occasion demand, the excellent condition of the Laverne fire department, with the adequate facilities at its command, would be proof of the expediency of ever being prepared.

Provision for fire protection in Laverne was made an issue at an early day. The need was realized so early as 1878, when an effort was made to organize a hook and ladder company, a movement that did not at the time lead to successful action. A step in the right direction was made by the village council in March, 1882, when the owners and lessees of buildings in the business section were ordered to provide at their own expense suitable ladders, to be kept on the premises for use in case of fire.

The village took further action early in 1884. During the months of January and February the work of digging five wells at advantageous points was provided for. A supply of water was found at depths ranging from fifteen to twenty feet. The problem of a water supply solved, provision was made late in the same year for the purchase of suitable fire-fighting apparatus. At a cost of \$325 a

hook and ladder truck, with all the necessary accompaniments, was purchased. With the organization of a volunteer hook and ladder company on November 20, Laverne felt its position secure from attack by the devouring flames. M. F. Battelle was made foreman of this primitive protective brigade, and he had as assistants James H. Gray and George W. Millhouse.

Special attention was directed toward the improvement of the fire fighting facilities during the winter of 1887-88. A cistern of 500 barrels capacity, fed by the previously constructed wells, was made in the center of Main street at the intersection with Cedar street at an expense of \$310. In December, 1887, the council added to the equipment by the purchase of a hand fire engine, a 150 gallon tank chemical, hose cart and 500 feet of hose.

Having made provision in the way of equipment, the council, on June 9, 1888, authorized the organization of a fire department and appointed four citizens to proceed with the enlistment of volunteers. The organization was perfected on November 19. Edwin Gillham was elected first chief of the department; P. R. Kelley, first assistant; J. A. Cameron, second assistant; H. J. Miller, secretary; and E. S. Warner, treasurer. The ninety charter members of the department were divided into four companies: the fire engine company, composed of thirty-three men with J. H. Graaf, captain; the chemical engine company of eleven members, J. W. Gerber, captain; hook and ladder company with twenty-three men, E. S. Warner, foreman; and the hose company, seventeen strong, led by A. J. Webber.¹⁵

During the early nineties the Laverne

¹⁵The roster of the four companies follows: Fire Engine Company—Philo Hawes, Robert Wilson, C. A. Palmer, H. J. Miller, David Clegg, Ed. Coney, Irving Smotel, Milton Pierson, Henry Hofelmann, Z. H. Bailey, W. C. Johnson, E. J. Schmidt, William Macfadden, David Stephen, William Jacobsen, W. H. Wilson, G. W. Kniss.

W. T. Gibson, N. Nelson, John A. Cameron, D. E. Westfield, M. McCarthy, F. A. Brestrup, A. H. Osborn, J. A. Harroun, E. B. Burley, R. O. Crawford, H. J. Thome, C. A. Mead, K. W. Jargo, P. O. Skyberg, I. A. Moreaux, J. Larson, Chemical Engine Company—F. H. Fritz, Gus Wehner, Frank Smelser, A. G. Herbert, W. F.

fire department became a member of the Columbian Inter-state Firemen's association, an organization comprising departments in parts of Iowa, Minnesota and South Dakota. Annually this association held tournaments, always of great splendor, in which stirring competition among the running teams of the departments represented was a chief feature. The Luverne team established a world's record at the 1895 tournament at Pipestone, by running 200 yards, laying 150 feet of hose and making the coupling in twenty-six and one-fifth seconds. For several succeeding years the Luverne department produced a championship team. Luverne entertained the teams of the association in 1897.

A reorganization of the fire department upon a more effective basis was consummated in 1898. The constitution and by-laws under which the department of today operates were adopted January 16, 1899. The membership was limited to fifty, on the following apportionment: twelve members in each of the two hose companies, fourteen in the hook and ladder company, and twelve in the chemical company. Since the reorganization George W. Cottrell has served as chief of the department with the exception of the years 1905, 1906, 1908 and 1909.¹⁶ In January, 1903, the Luverne department was admitted to membership in the State Firemen's association.

THE BANKS.

As a financial center, few towns of its class in the state can compare with Luverne. Being the hub of one of Minne-

sota's wealthiest counties, it is only natural that it should attain such a distinction. By the latest authoritative reports, announced in January, 1911, the deposits in the four banks of Luverne aggregated \$1,370,924.76, with assets at the same time of \$1,588,675.53. Three of Luverne's financial concerns are national banks and one a state bank. They are the First National Bank, Farmers National Bank, National Bank of Luverne and the Rock County Bank.

The First National Bank is the successor to the first banking concern established in Rock county. This was the private bank opened by P. J. Kniss and O. D. Brown, under the name of Bank of Luverne, in the fall of 1876. The partnership between the original proprietors existed until January, 1881, when Mr. Brown withdrew his interests and a reorganization was effected. The officers under the new regime were P. J. Kniss, president; G. W. Kniss, vice president; and E. D. Hadley, cashier. W. P. Hurlbut succeeded Mr. Hadley as cashier in November, 1882, and the banking firm took the name P. J. Kniss & Co.

The Bank of Luverne commenced business as a state bank November 15, 1881, and was capitalized at \$30,000, paid in by seventeen stockholders. A year later a further reorganization was carried out, which resulted in the conversion of the institution into a national bank. The capital stock was increased to \$50,000, and under its new charter the First National Bank opened its doors January 7, 1886. The first officers and members of the board of directors were: P. J. Kniss,

Holden, G. H. Sundem, E. O. Krook, T. J. McDermott, E. E. Henton, R. E. Young, J. W. Seeman.

Hook and Ladder Company, Edward McKenzie, N. R. Reynolds, Will Bronson, Lee Philbrick, F. M. Bailey, M. W. Pinger, V. C. Mead, O. P. Huntington, J. M. Stranahan, W. C. Colby, John M. Thrane, C. E. Whitney, John F. Flichman, J. C. Thompson, A. D. LaDue, Mat McCarthy, R. J. Stephen, J. J. LaDue, W. F. Johns, P. R. Kelley, George Lect, Ole Lund, A. C. Strader.

Hose Company, T. E. Jones, J. R. Wright, N. J. Hoagland, H. A. Hanson, J. P. Houg, H. Woodruff, A. Murray, John H. Jones, Andrew Gordon, E. L. Dobell, Henry Olson, Jens Billington, E. Bronson, A. Enger, Charles Slater, William Mills, Lewis Moulton.

¹⁶The chiefs during these periods were: A. Steinfeldt in 1905, Bert Henton in 1906, Eugene Bark in 1908 and 1909.

president; E. D. Hadley, vice president; W. P. Hurlbut, cashier; H. J. Miller, N. Nelson, W. H. Halbert and E. A. Brown.

A number of important changes in the management of the institution occurred in 1887. On January 27 W. H. Halbert succeeded W. P. Hurlbut as cashier, and in August the majority stock was purchased by S. W. Thompson, of East Randolph, New York, who thereupon succeeded to the vice presidency, vice E. D. Hadley. Charles C. Thompson was installed as cashier on November 8, 1888. In December, 1890, P. J. Kniss withdrew from the bank, and as a result S. W. Thompson was elevated to the presidency and N. Nelson became vice president.

The First National's fourth cashier was C. E. Huntington, who succeeded Charles C. Thompson in January, 1891. Late in the same year a most important change in the bank's management was negotiated. President Thompson and Cashier Huntington both retired, and the stock they controlled was transferred to William Jacobsen and A. D. LaDue, both formerly connected with the Rock County Bank. Mr. Jacobsen became president and Mr. LaDue cashier, and those officers served thirteen years. E. A. Brown, the present vice president, succeeded N. Nelson in 1894.

The final change in the personnel of the First National's management was made by reason of the death of President Jacobsen in 1905. Since then the officers have been: A. D. LaDue, president; E. A. Brown, first vice president; O. P. Huntington, second vice president; William Jacobsen, Jr., cashier; D. M. Main, assistant cashier. On the same occasion the board of directors, then consisting of A. D. LaDue, E. A. Brown, O. P. Huntington, G. C. Huntington and P. E. Brown, was increased to seven members, and William Jacobsen, Jr., and J. A.

Kennicott were chosen as the new directors. On January 1, 1906, the capital stock was increased to \$100,000, to which were accumulated a surplus and reserved profits of nearly \$50,000. The brick block occupied by the First National Bank was erected in 1878.

The Rock County Bank, the second financial institution established in Luverne, has always been operated under the one name. It was organized May 2, 1882, and incorporated the same month as a state bank, with a paid up capital of \$25,000. The following were the original officers and stockholders: William Jacobsen, president; R. B. Hinkly, cashier; O. P. Miller, J. K. P. Thompson, William Larabee, Frank Larabee, B. H. Hinkly, W. R. Kinnard, Daniel Stone, Ezra Rice and W. H. Wilson.

In July, 1885, the capital stock of the bank was increased to \$50,000. William Jacobsen was succeeded as president in May, 1888, by B. H. Hinkly. R. B. Hinkly, the first cashier, continued in that office until April, 1899, when he was elected to the presidency and C. J. Martin, the present incumbent, became cashier. The final change in the management of the Rock County Bank, effected August 14, 1909, resulted in a complete reorganization. The Hinkly and Larabee interests were withdrawn, and the bank passed into the hands of a new company, C. J. Martin being the only member of the old board of directors to retain his connection with the institution. The capital stock was placed at \$25,000 and the following were the officers and directors elected: C. L. Sherman, president; Ernest Kiebach, vice president; C. J. Martin, cashier; L. E. Coss, J. P. Coffey, J. P. Houg and S. A. D. Kennedy. The Rock County Bank is located in its own brick block, erected in 1883, on the north-

west corner of the intersection of Main and Cedar streets.

The Farmers National Bank has been established for twenty-three years. It was organized in 1888 under the state banking laws as the Security Bank of Laverne, and opened for business May 8, of that year, in the brick building it still occupies on the southeast corner of the intersection of Main and Cedar streets. The original officers were Angus Ross, president; Ezra Rice, vice president; and W. H. Halbert, cashier. On the death of W. H. Halbert, B. E. Schuck became cashier.

The change from the Security Bank to the Farmers National Bank occurred June 6, 1905. The capital stock of the institution is \$25,000. Angus Ross, the principal organizer, is still the president, and B. E. Schuck is cashier. The present board of directors consists of the following: P. E. Brown, J. A. Harroun, J. O. Helgeson, J. H. Graaf, J. W. Gerber, J. H. Sanders and B. E. Schuck.

The youngest of Laverne's banking concerns, the National Bank of Laverne, is an outgrowth of the Laverne City Bank, a private institution founded by Fred B. Burley. Mr. Burley opened his bank for business June 16, 1906. In December, 1907, an association was formed, with Mr. Burley as prime mover, which absorbed the Laverne City Bank and was granted a charter by the treasury department to conduct a national bank. The incorporators and first officers of the National Bank of Laverne were P. O. Skyberg, president; Carl Wiese, first vice president; James McKeon, second vice president; Fred B. Burley, cashier; A. H. Osborn, K. G. Oldre, C. L. Sherman and E. H. Canfield.

MANUFACTORIES.

Within the past few years there have been developed a number of important manufacturing concerns in Laverne, and in every instance none but local capital has been employed. These industrial enterprises have been beneficial agencies in the promotion of the city's prosperity. The demand for Laverne-made products has extended considerably beyond a local field of distribution.

The Laverne automobile, manufactured by the Laverne Automobile company, is a machine whose merits have attracted the attention of buyers in all parts of the northwest. Laverne is one of the few cities in the middle west that can boast of a completely equipped automobile manufactory. The industry developed from small beginnings. In 1893 F. A. and E. L. Leicher, under the firm name of Leicher Brothers, established a wagon-making business which grew to substantial proportions. The Leichers in 1903 constructed an automobile in their shop, which on trial proved to be a success. This led them to branch out on a broader scale, and for a few years they turned out machines to supply a local demand.

A number of Laverne business men, realizing the importance of developing the enterprise the Leicher Brothers had commenced, in November, 1906, incorporated a company with a capital stock of \$50,000, and succeeded to the rights of the Laverne Automobile company, which had previously been established by F. A. Leicher, E. L. Leicher, J. A. Kennicott and A. D. LaDue. These gentlemen, together with E. A. Brown, S. B. Nelson, S. C. Rea, William Jacobsen, Jr., C. O. Wright and J. W. Gerber, became stockholders in the reorganized company. A year later the present two-story brick factory building was erected and equipped

with new and modern machinery. Nearly twenty men are employed and the annual output of the plant averages seventy five cars. The factory is under the management of Leicher Brothers.

Another firmly established Luverne enterprise is the Luverne Brick & Tile company, an industry which gives employment to more than thirty men the entire year. The founder of this institution, which has had an existence of thirteen years, was R. B. Hinkly. On the advice of experts in clay analysis who examined the soil on Mr. Hinkly's farm and pronounced it to be the very best for brickmaking purposes, that gentleman at once established a plant, small at first, to utilize the resources. In the course of a few years it was found necessary to increase the facilities, and the industry was placed on a firm footing.

The Luverne Brick and Tile company as a corporation began its existence in 1907. In the same year was built the present plant, a four story structure, which, with the several additions and other buildings subsequently erected, covers a plot of ground 80x100 feet in extent. The company manufactures brick and hollow terracotta building blocks and all sizes of drain tile and has an equipment for this purpose unexcelled by any similar institution in the state. The present officers of the concern are R. B. Hinkly, president; John Connell, secretary; and B. S. Hinkly, superintendent.

Luverne is the home of two brick manufacturing factories. A company of local capitalists

was formed and incorporated in 1907 as the Luverne Pressed Brick company, which established a thoroughly up-to-date plant for the manufacture of sand and lime products. The factory is located on an extension of the Omaha railroad tracks near a large gravel pit of inexhaustible supply. The facilities for manufacturing are modern, and the plant is capable of an output of 20,000 brick per day. Luverne pressed brick has won wide favor through its excellence and is being used in the construction of many of the best buildings in this section of the state. C. W. Sheriff is the superintendent of the plant. The present officers of the Luverne Pressed Brick company are E. A. Brown, president; S. B. Nelson, vice president; W. E. E. Greene, secretary; and A. D. LaDue, treasurer.

The Luverne Concrete company, manufacturer of building blocks, drainage tile, curbing and other cement products, was organized in April, 1910, with the following officers and board of directors: L. E. Coss, president; C. L. Sherman, vice president; C. J. Martin, secretary and treasurer; E. R. Coss, C. H. Peterson, H. E. Cornish and S. A. Coss. The success of the enterprise was guaranteed from its birth. The manufacturing plant, the largest of its kind in southwestern Minnesota, extends over nine acres of land, has excellent facilities for shipping, and is equipped with modern machinery. The main building has a floor space of 12,000 square feet.

CHAPTER XI.

HILLS AND HARDWICK.

RANKING second in size among Rock county villages is Hills, situated in the southern part of Martin township, two miles from the Iowa state line. It is located at the junction of the Great Northern and Illinois Central railroads, giving it transportation facilities excelled by no other town in the county excepting Luverne. As regards trade territory, Hills has a strategic location, drawing its trade from an area of exceptionally prosperous country—a finer agricultural country than which it has never been the fortune of the author of this volume to see. The village itself is in keeping with the country surrounding. It is compactly built and presents an attractive appearance, being generally regarded as the neatest looking municipality in Rock county. It has broad streets, lined with substantial brick and frame business houses and handsome residences, and shade and ornamental trees cover the entire townsite.

Although Hills takes a high rank in the matter of size and importance, it is one of the younger villages of Rock county, having come into existence after, and as a result of, the building of the Sioux

City & Northern (now a branch of the Great Northern) railroad from Sioux City to Garretson. The first building erected on the townsite was put up prior to this time, however,—long before the location of a village there was thought of. This building was a church, the house of worship of the Immanuel, Norwegian Evangelical Union (Synod), which was erected in 1885. From that date until late in the year 1889 the church alone occupied the townsite of Hills.

The Illinois Central railroad was built through the neighborhood in the fall of 1887, and men who were following the fortunes of that road founded the town of Bruce, a couple of miles west of the future town of Hills, which, of course, precluded any idea of founding a town in such close proximity by the Illinois Central interests. But when the line of the Sioux City & Northern was definitely located and grading was commenced late in July, 1889, the farmers living in the vicinity of the point where the new road would cross the Illinois Central interested themselves in inducing the railway company to locate a town at that point.¹ In August, before track laying was begun, a

¹The first mention of a possible new town I have been able to find in the local press appeared in the Beaver Creek News-Letter of August 16, 1889. The item was as follows: "New towns are springing up around us like

mushrooms in a hotbed. Another town, five miles south of us on the Sioux City & Northern, will soon launch into the booming process that is necessary to build up towns in the west."

number of Martin township farmers raised \$1000 by subscription, with which they purchased of F. C. Finke a forty acre tract on the northeast quarter of section 28. This they turned over to the railroad authorities, with the understanding that a station should be located thereon and a townsite platted. The matter of the establishment of the new town hung fire for some time,² but the representative of the railroad company accepted the forty acre tract and in September purchased a seven-teen acre tract adjoining from William Thompson.

The farmers residing in the vicinity were given the privilege of christening the new town. They chose the name Oslo, but before the site was platted, late in October, it was learned that there was a town of the same name in Marshall county, Minnesota, and those interested decided on Grant for the name. That name was also short lived, for when the local passenger tariff of the new road was issued early in December, the new station was listed Anderson, in honor of Goodman Anderson, then a resident of Martin township, now of Hills. The station was known by this name until the following spring.

The townsite was surveyed in November, 1889, by O. C. Pitkin. The dedication was made February 11, 1890, by E. W. Skinner, and the instrument was filed

for record May 31 of the same year.³ The track was laid to and beyond the site of the town in the fall of 1889, and before the first of the next year a depot, section house, windmill and tank were erected. No one made his home there, however, and prior to the year 1890 Hills (or Anderson, as it was then called) did not have a single inhabitant.

The first inhabitant of Anderson was Olaf Nordby, who came in January, 1890, as section foreman. The section house was occupied by one of his men who had a family, and Mr. Nordby boarded with them. Early in February B. F. Heastand came to Anderson as agent for the Sioux City & Northern and opened the station. The matter of selecting a permanent name for the town-to-be became a live issue early in the year and the matter was argued for several weeks before any business enterprises were started.⁴ On March 1 a public meeting was held, at which the name Hills was decided upon. This was given in honor of Frederick C. Hills, who was at the time the president of the Sioux City & Northern railroad.⁵

In the spring of 1890 Hills became a town in fact as well as in name. Several business enterprises were started, and before the close of the summer season there were quite a number of stores, shops and warehouses, the greater number of which had come in their entirety from the neigh-

²"There appears to be some question as to whether or not a new town will be started at the crossing of the Sioux City & Northern and the Illinois Central near Bruce, in Martin township. A tract of forty acres has been donated to the company for a townsite at the point mentioned, but it appears that the Central road is opposed to the scheme and it is stated on what appears to be pretty good authority that the Sioux City & Northern company has no intention of putting in a depot there."—Rock County Herald, August 30, 1889.

³The original plat consisted of sixteen blocks. North and south the avenues were named Main, Water and Church; east and west the streets were numbered First to Sixth. Additions to Hills have been platted as follows:

Lars O. Kolsrud's, by Lars O. Kolsrud and Andrew Gunderson, July 21, 1893; surveyed by W. N. Davidson.

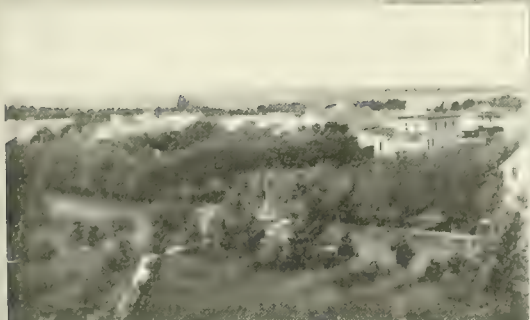
F. C. Finke's, by Frederick C. Finke, May 12, 1893, surveyed by W. N. Davidson.

Helgeson & Qualley's, by John Helgeson and O. G. Qualley, May 28, 1902; surveyed by W. N. Davidson.

County Auditor's Outlots, by County Auditor, October 16, 1909; surveyed by W. N. Davidson.

⁴"The parties interested in the new town of Anderson in Martin township are having a little squabble over the name—some are for and some against the name."—Beaver Creek News-Letter, February 21, 1890.

⁵Frederick C. Hills was born in England January 23, 1842, and came to America with his parents at the age of seven years. He served three months in the civil war, being discharged because of physical disability. He located in Sioux City, Iowa, in 1864, was one of the organizers of the Sioux City & Northern, and for seven years served as president and general manager of that road. He died from poisoning in Sioux City, November 23, 1899.



SCENES AT HILLS

boring village of Bruce. To William Thompson, who lived on his farm adjoining the townsite, and Orval E. McClarey belong the honor of being the first to engage in business in Hills. In March these gentlemen erected the first business house in the town, on Main street, one block from the depot, and on April 28 opened a grocery and hardware store, also engaging in shipping live stock.⁶ While Thompson & McClarey were establishing the first business house others were putting up buildings in the new town, and immediately after the pioneer store was started other business enterprises were founded.

In April the store building of Jacobson & Sexe was moved across the fields from Bruce, and early in May that firm opened a general store one block north of the Thompson store. The same month A. T. Sexe moved his lumber yard from Bruce and installed P. H. Bly as manager. At the same time Ole Lund, the Bruce blacksmith, moved to the more promising village with his family—the first family to locate in Hills—and erected a shop and residence.

Many of the settlers of Martin township and most of the first business men of Hills were Norwegians. When the seventy-sixth anniversary of the independence of Norway, May 17, 1890, occurred, all living in the vicinity joined in celebrating the event, although only the above mentioned people were residents of the town. A bowery was erected and the exercises were held in a downpour of rain. Niels Jacobson was president of the day; Nels Iverson, vice president; Charles Nelson and George Anderson, marshals. The advertising matter promised one hundred guns at sunrise and a mammoth parade, headed by two brass bands.

⁶This pioneer business firm dissolved partnership six months later, Mr. Thompson continuing the business and closing out the grocery stock.

So early as February a petition had been circulated among the farmers in the vicinity of the proposed town, asking for the establishment of a postoffice, and during the summer the office was established with J. N. Jacobson as postmaster.⁷

Besides the business enterprises mentioned, a few others were put in operation before the close of the year 1890. Warehouses were put up by Anderson & Finke, who also engaged in the stock business, and A. T. Sexe, and an elevator was built by the J. Q. Adams company. A Hendrickson, a carpenter, erected a residence late in the year. A correspondent writing November 17 said: "We have every prospect for making a good town. . . . We have three elevators, one general store, one large hardware store, one blacksmith shop and one large lumber yard, also two stock firms and two coal and wood firms." From the time the station was opened until the first of the next year over \$7000 worth of freight business was done at the Hills station, according to a statement by the agent, B. F. Heastand. The growth during the first year of its history had been substantial, and the year 1891 opened with more improvements in prospect.

During the second year of the town's history a two-story town hall costing \$1500 was put up by a stock company, composed principally of farmers residing in the vicinity and a few business men of the town; a \$3000 brick church was erected; Erick Colby established a livery and feed stable; Olaf Skyberg rented a part of the town hall and founded the second general store; Dr. C. P. Bissell put in a stock of drugs in Jacobson & Sexe's store and practiced his profession; L. A. Gilberts and the Midland Elevator company erected warehouses; W. P. King estab-

⁷Mr. Jacobson served a four year term, being succeeded in 1894 by F. H. Fritz. Olaf Skyberg received the appointment in 1898 and has held the office since. One rural mail route is in operation from Hills. It was established April 1, 1904.

lished a photograph gallery; and six residences were built.⁸ A business directory of Hills on November 20, 1891, shows the following: Jacobson & Sexe, general merchandise; Olaf Skyberg, general merchandise; William Thompson, hardware; A. T. Sexe, lumber, fuel, feed and grain; P. H. Bly, manager; C. P. Bissell, physician and drug store; Erick Colby, livery barn; Ole Lund, blacksmith; A. Hendrickson, carpenter; B. F. Heastand, railroad agent; J. Q. Adams & Company, elevator, A. J. Barbour, agent; L. A. Gilberts, grain dealer, John Helgeson, manager; Midland Elevator company, W. F. Johns, manager.

The growth of Hills during 1892 was substantial and its permanency was assured. It distanced some of the neighboring villages and boasted a larger growth than its rivals.⁹ Among the new enterprises of the year were the town's first hotel by T. O. Strandness, a bank under the management of J. R. Wright, a harness shop by H. Julson and a pool hall by H. O. Rue. The building improvements amounted to over \$17,000 and were as follows:

A. T. Sexe, store building.....	\$4000
Sandbo Brothers & Skattum, drug store and harness shop.....	3000
A. T. Sexe, residence.....	2000
J. Helgeson, residence.....	1500
H. Nerison, residence.....	1500
T. O. Strandness, hotel.....	1200
Olaf Skyberg, residence.....	1000
P. H. Bly, residence.....	1000
O. Rue, residence.....	800
Iver Heyme, residence.....	600
M. Olson, residence.....	300
W. P. King, photograph gallery.....	200
Total	\$17,100

"To say that Hills is booming is not saying much at present. The fact is, we lack words to express the enterprise and thrift noticeable in all lines of business. All our business men are kept so busy that they must put out of consideration both comfort and repose to keep pace with the progress of the town. Lots and building materials go like hot cakes. Houses go up and new business enterprises are established. Hills is destined to become the metropolis of Rock county, to say the least, and the present outlook warrants us in predicting that

Despite the fact that there had been so much activity during the first few years of its existence, when the Hills Crescent was founded in August, 1893, it is learned that the total population of the village was not over forty. There was some advancement during the first half of the year 1893, and the report of the railroad business at the station for the year indicated a healthy business. Three hundred twenty-seven carloads of grain and forty-three of stock were shipped from the station; there were received twenty-one carloads of lumber, forty-four of coal, thirty of merchandise, two of salt and thirty-two of miscellaneous goods. The panic of 1893 and the few years succeeding hard times had a depressing effect on the little village and not much progress was made until the late nineties.

An item of the greatest importance in the history of Hills was the establishment of the station on the Illinois Central road. Ever since the founding of the town its citizens had endeavored to bring about this much desired action, but the Illinois Central interests had been more interested in their town of Bruce and had steadfastly refused to entertain the idea. The people of Hills raised \$400 by subscription to donate toward the building of a depot and during the winter of 1893-94 the station was established and the depot built, resulting, practically, in giving the town a new railroad. The occasion was duly celebrated in a jollification held on the evening of January 3, 1894.

The next item we have to consider in the history of Hills was also an important

such will be the case in the no distant future."
Hills Correspondent, September 2, 1891.

"Hills, in its march of progress, is crushing the hopes and aspirations of some older towns, passing on over the dead and buried remains of the neighboring villages. It is the eternal law of life and growth. Something must die that other things may live. There is a 'survival of the fittest.'"—Correspondent, September 1892

one—no less than the removal of the entire business section of the town. The village was originally located three blocks west of the present location, on low ground. In 1893 F. C. Finke platted an addition on the higher ground, and early in the year 1895 he submitted a proposition for the removal of the business houses to Summit avenue of his addition, which would place it about midway between the two depots. A meeting of the property owners on Main street was held early in April, when Mr. Finke made his proposition, to the effect that in case the move was made each property owner should receive free a lot of relative location to the one on Main street and that each building should be moved free of cost to the owner. On April 20, at another meeting, the proposition was accepted. Ole Sandbo, William Thompson and A. O. Skattum were appointed a committee to represent the business men in the legal transaction. To the committee Mr. Finke delivered a bond, signed by himself, Goodman Anderson, J. C. Steensen and J. R. Wright, pledging the removal of the buildings free of cost and damage. The contract was signed on May 4, and at once the fourteen buildings comprising the business portion of the town were moved to the present site.

After the hard times period, during the closing years of the decade which had ushered in Hills, steady improvement was made. In 1896, although a full recovery from the hard times had not been made, the building improvements amounted to \$12,640, according to the figures of the Hills Crescent. Among the principal buildings were the Hills creamery, implement house and residence of Ole Severson and a residence by P. H. Bly. In 1897 the improvements reached a total of

\$13,000, including the Presbyterian church; in 1898 they were placed at the same figure; and in 1899 at \$11,550, including the Rock County Banking company's brick block, Wright & Munson's elevator and J. R. Wright's residence.

The year 1902 was an exceptionally prosperous one in Hills, the building improvements for the year amounting to \$53,500, including many handsome residences. On March 13, 1902, the Crescent boasted of the following enterprises: two banks, two department stores, two hardware stores, two hotels, five elevators, two lumber yards, two implement houses, two harness dealers, three fuel dealers, three wall paper dealers, one furniture store, one machine repair shop, two stock yards, one feed mill, one restaurant, one real estate firm, one meat market, one drug store, one confectionery store, one stock buyer, one laundry, one millinery store, one newspaper, one photograph gallery, one barber shop, one shoe repair shop, one bicycle shop, one billiard hall, three dress-making establishments, two railroads, two express agencies, one undertaker, one carpenter shop, seven carpenters, two dray lines, one bakery, five insurance agencies, three painters, one physician, a detention hospital, a telephone system, three churches and three lodges.

Hills became an incorporated municipality in 1904. It had a population to warrant taking the step ten years before, but the fear of many of the residents that incorporation would result in the licensing of saloons precluded taking any action at that time. In the fall of 1899 the matter was made an issue and came to a vote. A census of the village was taken, showing a population of 282. A petition was circulated¹⁰ and presented to the county board, asking for action looking toward

¹⁰Signed by August C. Finke, O. F. Starr, W. J. Kinne, F. C. Nuffer, A. V. Greene, L. Quam, W. Jennings, Hans Nelson, John Helgeson, Martin B. Hippl, S. S. Brovald, D. S. Walter, An-

fin Osboe, O. T. Royang, S. Hagen, Ole Lund, E. W. Munson, Halvor Julson, P. H. Bly, H. E. Wyum, J. F. Jordan, John Rudd, F. W. Purcell, Hodge Rue, G. Rue, J. N. Jacobson,

incorporation. The commissioners took favorable action and named November 29 as the date and the opera house as the place for holding an election to decide the question. The result was a tie, thirty votes being cast for and the same number against incorporation. This defeated the proposition. Almost every year thereafter until incorporation was effected in 1904, the question was agitated, but sentiment was against taking the step because of fear that it would lead to the opening of saloons.

A census of the proposed incorporation (including 390 acres on sections 24 and 28), taken September 13, 1904, showed a population of 351. On that date another petition was circulated,¹¹ asking the required steps to be taken by the county commissioners. The petition was presented September 14, and two days later was acted upon favorably, the commissioners naming John Helgeson, William F. Finke and Ole M. Ruud inspectors to conduct an election November 15, 1904. At the incorporating election sixty-eight votes were cast, of which fifty-three were in favor of and eighteen against incorporation.

The first municipal election was held December 8, 1904, when the village's first officers were chosen. A few days later those elected qualified and entered upon their duties. The results of the annual elections have been as follows:

1904—President, O. B. Severson; trustees, W. A. Larson, J. N. Jacobson, J. C. Steensen; recorder, Olaf Skyberg; treasurer, S. A. Christianson; justices, F. B. Myrick, O. T. Rovang; constables, Oswald Ruud, Gulick Rogness.

M. Anderson, G. B. Anderson, Ole Severson, F. H. Fritz, Ole O. Rue, Jr., J. R. Wright, F. A. Webster and Ole M. Ruud.

¹¹Signed by John Helgeson, P. L. Breden, R. G. Garner, A. C. Finke, O. T. Rovang, J. H. Finke, O. J. Nash, J. H. Cox, C. W. Olander, Edward Larson, G. Rogness, Fred York, J. F. Jordan, F. B. Myrick, O. B. Severson, W. Jennings, Lars Engebretson, A. Hynden, Iver Thompson, H. A. Twange, Jacob Nerison, John Thorson, Carl Loftness, Evan Sather, D. S. Walter, J. N. Jacobson, Halvor Julson, Nels G. Sundem, W. F. Finke, K. O. Rue, W. A. Larson, S. S. Bro-

1905—President, O. B. Severson; trustees, W. A. Larson, J. N. Jacobson, K. K. Hellie; recorder, Olaf Skyberg; treasurer, S. A. Christianson; justices, A. C. Finke, O. M. Ruud; constables, Edward Larson, J. H. Finke.

1906—President, O. B. Severson; trustees, J. N. Jacobson, W. A. Larson, K. K. Hellie; recorder, Olaf Skyberg; treasurer, S. A. Christianson; assessor, F. C. Nuffer; justices, A. C. Finke, H. A. Twange; constables, Henry Nelson, F. E. York.

1907—President, W. F. Finke; trustees, J. N. Jacobson, W. A. Larson, Anton Hynden; recorder, Olaf Skyberg; treasurer, O. J. Nash; assessor, F. C. Nuffer; justices,¹² S. J. Froshaug, A. C. Finke; constables, H. A. Nerison, M. P. Halvorson.

1908¹³—President, W. F. Finke; trustees, G. O. Rue, Otto Nelson, K. K. Hellie; recorder, Olaf Skyberg; treasurer, O. J. Nash; assessor, K. N. Knudtson; justices, B. O. Mork, A. C. Finke; constables, M. P. Halvorson, H. A. Nerison.

1909—President, W. F. Finke; trustees, H. M. Moen, K. K. Hellie, Otto Nelson; recorder, Carl Omodt; treasurer, O. J. Nash; assessor, F. C. Nuffer; justices, K. N. Knudtson, Niels Jacobson; constables, H. A. Nerison, Oscar Qualley.

1910—President, J. N. Jacobson; trustees, W. F. Finke, K. K. Hellie, William Thompson; recorder, J. B. Stordahl; treasurer, O. J. Nash; assessor, F. C. Nuffer; justice, K. N. Knudtson; constable, A. G. Qualley.

1911—President, J. N. Jacobson; trustees, K. K. Hellie, W. F. Finke, P. P. Sundahl; recorder, J. B. Stordahl; treasurer, C. J. Woodrow; assessor, F. C. Nuffer; justices, Niels Jacobson, H. A. Twange; constable, E. Nerison.

Since Hills has become an incorporated town its growth has been steady. Over \$30,000 were expended on building improvements in 1904. The state census of 1905 gave the town a population of 320. In 1908 the building improvements footed up over \$15,000 and in 1909 to the same figure. The census of 1910 showed a population of 398, giving Hills second place among Rock county towns.

vold, A. T. Sexe, William Thompson, A. E. Cleveland, H. E. Wyum, Martin Nelson, Ole O. Rue, T. Nigand, Peder Halvorson, T. Lien and K. K. Hellie.

¹²Were appointed.

¹³Hills has never had a licensed saloon. Prior to 1908 the question was not put to a vote and the council did not grant license. In 1908 the vote was twenty-three for license to forty-seven against. In 1909 the question was not an issue and in 1910 the vote was twenty-eight for to sixty-two against.

THE SCHOOL.

The first school taught in Hills was conducted by Miss Jennie Wright. The district had not been organized and the expenses were paid with money raised by subscription. The district, comprising five sections, was organized in 1893, and the school that year was taught by Miss Myra Ferguson in the town hall. The members of the first board of education were Olaf Skyberg, P. H. Bly and Nels Iverson. In 1894 a block of land was purchased by the district and a two-room frame building was put up at a cost of \$3000. A. S. Johnson and Betsey Rovang conducted the first school in the building. As the town grew the old building became too small to accommodate the district and in the fall of 1903 an addition was built at a cost of \$3000. Just after its completion, January 7, 1904, the building was totally destroyed by fire. Steps were at once taken to rebuild, and early in September the present four-room school house, 32x72 feet, was completed at a cost of \$7800.

THE CHURCHES.

Hills has three active church organizations, the Immanuel Norwegian Evangelical Union (Synod), the United Norwegian Lutheran and the Trinity Norwegian Lutheran Free. For many years the Presbyterian society also maintained an organization, and the church building of that society still stands.

The Immanuel Norwegian Evangelical Union church of Hills antedates the town by several years. The original organization is the oldest of the Norwegian Lutheran churches in Rock county, having been organized at the home of Ole P. Steen, in Clinton township, on July 10, 1872.¹⁴ Rev. Elof Olson was the first pastor of the congregation and assisted in the organiza-

tion. He was succeeded by O. Sando (1873-1878), C. A. Naeseth (1878-1882), A. Thurmo (1882-1894), and J. H. Lund (1894-1911), who also served all the other synod churches in the county. The church was incorporated October 11, 1881. Services were held at the homes of the members until 1886.

During the summer of 1884 a church edifice was started on the site where was later built the town of Hills. When it was nearing completion it was struck by the terrible cyclone of July 21, 1884, and entirely destroyed, causing a loss of \$1800. One of the carpenters at work on the building was killed and another seriously injured. At a meeting on July 26, 1885, it was decided to erect another church edifice on the same site. The new building was completed late in December, 1885, at a cost of \$2600. An addition was made in 1900, making the total value of the building about \$4000. A parsonage was completed in November, 1902, at a cost of \$3500. The Immanuel church of Hills is one of the strongest, as well as oldest, in Rock county. The congregation of this church and the one at Beaver Creek numbers at the present time about 525.

The United Norwegian Lutheran church of Hills is also one of the pioneer religious societies of Rock county. It was organized as a Norwegian Lutheran church in July, 1878, under the direction of Rev. H. Z. Hvid, and on May 5, 1879, the congregation allied itself with the United Norwegian Lutheran society. The first officers of the society were Ole Sandbo, secretary; Paul O. Sandbo, C. C. Moe and Joseph Jacobson, trustees; John Nelson, treasurer; A. Gunderson and Erick Evenson, elders; Ole O. Blegen, deacon.

The first regular pastor of the church

¹⁴The voting members who signed the constitution were Ole P. Steen, Sven Sanderson, Ole Rud, Asle Skattum, Peder Tuff, Christopher

Berge, Anders Anderson, Thore Schulzen, John Steen, Christian Clemetsen, Hans Olsen, Ole Finkelsen, Goodman Anderson and John Nelson.

was Rev. I. C. Jacobson, who accepted the call on September 24, 1878.¹⁵ He was succeeded October 25, 1880, by Rev. H. Wang, who served until 1890. Rev. Theodore Fossum took the pastorate at that time and served fourteen years. He was succeeded by Rev. C. S. Salveson, who served six years. The present pastor, Rev. H. O. Bjorlie, took charge of the church in 1910. One of the early day buildings of Hills was the brick church of this denomination, erected in 1891 at a cost of \$3000 and dedicated in the fall of 1892.

The Trinity Norwegian Lutheran Free church of Hills is a comparatively new organization, but one of considerable strength. The Lutheran Free faction withdrew from the United church in 1903, and Rev. K. J. Wang accepted the call as pastor. In October of the same year it was decided to erect a church edifice. C. C. Moe, Chris Sandbo and Charles Nelson were appointed a committee to solicit funds and John Nelson, L. O. Kolsrud, C. F. Skovgaard, Thomas Johnson and Olaf Skyberg were named the building committee. A church costing \$6000 was erected and dedicated September 25, 1904.

The only English-speaking church that ever maintained an organization in Hills was the Presbyterian, which was organized in the nineties. Under the pastorate of Rev. W. F. Finch, a church building costing \$2000 was put up in 1897, and it was dedicated June 5, 1898, by Rev. R. N. Adams, D. D. For several years the organization was quite prosperous, but for the last five years of its existence was poorly supported. In 1908 it had not a resident member, but services were held until the next year, when service was discontinued.

¹⁵Rev. Jacobson's salary was fixed at \$125 in cash, and he was also to be the recipient of a certain number of free will offerings every year; in addition each member of the congregation was expected to assist the pastor

THE LODGE.

Hills is not a good lodge town. It has only one secret society, and that is not in a very flourishing condition, although it holds its charter. The lodge is Hills Camp No. 3924, M. W. A., and was organized in 1896.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

An efficient fire department is maintained and has been since the incorporation of the town. In April, 1905, fire fighting apparatus was received and temporary companies were organized. A permanent organization was made in August, 1905, when the following officers were elected: O. J. Nash, chief; Otto Nelson, assistant chief; Carl Woodrow, secretary; Thomas Sundal, treasurer; O. B. Severson, K. K. Hellie and C. H. Sandberg, trustees.

THE BANKS.

In Hills are two banking institutions, the First National and Farmers State. The former is the outgrowth of the town's first financial institution, a private bank doing business under the title Rock County Banking company. It began business August 1, 1892, with a capital stock of \$5000, being owned by R. B. Hinkly, B. H. Hinkly, W. H. Wilson and J. R. Wright. The bank was under the management of Mr. Wright, and in December, 1896, that gentleman bought his partners' interests. He erected a fire-proof brick banking house in 1899, and conducted the bank until it was succeeded by the First National in 1902.

The \$25,000 stock for the First National was subscribed largely by local capitalists, and on May 5, 1902, the new in-

with one day's plowing and to furnish him with one bushel of oats every year. For this remuneration the pastor agreed to conduct at least thirteen preaching services during the year.



CHURCHES AND SCHOOL AT HILLS

stitution took over the business of the pioneer bank. Its first officers were A. C. Croft, president; J. N. Jacobson, vice president; J. R. Wright, cashier; P. E. Brown, A. T. Sexe, J. N. Jacobson, A. C. Croft and J. R. Wright, directors. In December, 1907, the First National Bank took over the business of the State Bank of Hills, which had been organized a few years before.

The Farmers State Bank was organized with a capital stock of \$10,000 in August, 1900, by local business men and farmers of the vicinity. The first board of directors and officers were as follows: W. F. Finke, president; P. O. Skyberg, vice president; M. Engebretson, cashier; A. C. Finke, assistant cashier; G. D. Nelson, H. Holverson and Olaf Kolsrud.

HARDWICK.

According to the last census figures, Hardwick ranks third in size among Rock county villages. It is a compactly built, neat appearing, prosperous little municipality located nine miles north of the county seat, at the junction of two lines of the Rock Island railroad. Otherwise described, it is in the southeast corner of Denver township, the platted portion of the village being on sections 26 and 35. Like Hills, it is a comparatively new town but has outstripped some of the older places in the county.

As a town, Hardwick's history dates back only to the year 1892, but the actual history of the place began several years before that time. Prior to the fall of 1884 the site of the present village was unoccupied by human habitation, and the honor of erecting the first building on the site belongs to a young Norwegian emigrant, Knute Taamasgaard by name.

At that time Mr. Taamasgaard, who was employed on the farm of Otter Otterson, made "squatter's" settlement on the land in question and constructed a diminutive dug-out and sod shanty, in which he and his wife resided about two years.

On the eleventh day of September, 1884, the tracklayers of the Burlington railroad, building from the south, reached the site of the present town. Rumors at once became rife regarding the establishment of stations on the new road between Luverne and Pipestone. During the month of September it was announced that one station would be located near Poplar creek in Pipestone county, to be named Trosky and another on Otter Otterson's farm, the northwest quarter of section 26, Denver township, to be called Denver. During the next month the town lot company connected with the Burlington road started the town of Trosky, but no steps were taken toward the building of the village in Denver township, the name of which, it was announced in October, was to be changed to Jasper. Although land for depot grounds was deeded to the company by Mr. Otterson, the officials took no action in regard to founding the new station during 1884.¹⁶

The people of northern Rock county, being long distances from market, were anxious for the opening of a station at some point along the line. The railway officials taking no action during the summer of 1885, the residents of Denver, Rose Dell and Mound townships circulated a petition in August, asking that the Burlington officials establish a station on Otter Otterson's farm—the location previously selected. The petition was signed by sixty-nine settlers. Within a few days after it was presented, on August 19, 1885, E. S. Ellsworth, the Burlington townsite agent,

¹⁶"Nothing definite can be learned concerning the location of a station between this point and Trosky, but there is still reason to believe that

the site originally selected on section 26 will be adopted."—Rock County Herald, November 21, 1884.

came to the site and under his direction a section house was built on Mr. Otterson's farm. Mr. Otterson was employed by the railway company to look after the shipment of grain from that point and that was the extent of the preparations for founding a town at that time. The matter of platting a townsite was under consideration by the authorities for a few weeks, but no action was taken.

Rumors of the establishment of the station were revived in the spring of 1886, but no action was taken until the fall of that year. In October the station was definitely located on the line between sections 35 and 26¹⁷ and a side track was constructed. In November a depot platform, 16x26 feet, was built, but the station was not named or put on the time card of the company until later. The grain buying firm of Cudahy & Butler bought grain at the new station that season. In the spring of 1887 the station was named Hardwick, in honor of J. L. Hardwick, the master builder of the Burlington road, and the next fall it was placed on the railroad time table. Otter Otterson bought grain and stock for E. A. Brown, who had succeeded to the business at the new station, during the season of 1887, and did a thriving business.¹⁸

There was practically no change at the station during the next few years. Otter Otterson continued buying grain for E. A. Brown, and later John Otterson bought for the Iowa, Minnesota & Dakota Grain company, which succeeded Cudahy & Butler. In 1889 Engebret Olson opened a small blacksmith shop on what is now the northeast corner of block four of the orig-

inal plat, and he continued in business until after the founding of the town.

Several items of importance occurred during 1891. That year John Otterson erected the first building of permanent character in Hardwick. It is the building on the lower end of Main street now occupied as a restaurant, and was occupied by Mr. Otterson as a residence; when the postoffice was established it was opened in this building. During the summer the depot was put up and it was opened September 1 with William Littel in charge. Early in the year the farmers in the vicinity petitioned for the establishment of a postoffice at Hardwick, and in December the office was put in operation with John Otterson as postmaster.¹⁹

By this time Hardwick had developed into an exceptionally good grain market, and toward the close of the year came the announcement that the following year would see the founding of the town, with stores, shops and other enterprises that make a town.

Almost with the beginning of the year 1892 came the first business men to start the new enterprises. In February Herman Lenz, a farmer residing in the neighborhood, completed a small store building and put in a stock of general merchandise. The next month A. A. Walvatne erected a building adjoining Mr. Lenz, in which Thomas Trenhaile opened the second general store. Before the spring was over Engebret Olson moved his blacksmith shop closer to the new village and William Olson came from Larchwood, Iowa, and opened a shop in opposition; T. Staven came from Trosky and built a wagon

¹⁷"It appears to be definitely determined that the new station in Denver township will be located on the north line of section 35. The location is certainly not the best that could have been chosen to secure the most business for the company, but the location selected is probably more advantageous than any other for the town lot company." *Rock County Herald*, October 29, 1886.

¹⁸"Since the crop of 1887 began to come into the market E. A. Brown has shipped fifty car-

loads of grain from Hardwick, the station in Denver township, and has shipped in all since that time over two hundred carloads of grain and livestock."—*Rock County Herald*, January 15, 1888.

¹⁹"Mr. Otterson conducted the postoffice until 1894. E. H. Albright served until April, 1887, since which time John B. Iverson has been postmaster. One rural route is supplied from the Hardwick office. It was established January 15, 1904.

shop: John Scharnberg erected a hotel and a little later opened a saloon in connection. During the summer Henry Melarchy opened a meat market: John H. Dressen erected a building and started the town's third general store: John Niemmer started the first livery barn. During the fall J. C. Johnston & Co. erected sheds and office building and started a lumber yard, under the management of Dunk Wills: a new grain buying firm appeared: John Otterson added flour and feed to his stock of fuel: a school house was erected: and several of the new comers built residences. The first child born in the village was a son born to Mr. and Mrs. John Otterson on June 20.

At the close of the year 1892 we find that there were in the new town three general stores, one hotel, one lumber yard, one fuel yard, two grain warehouses, two blacksmith shops, one saloon and one livery stable. Within the year Hardwick had developed into a hustling little village.²⁰ The list of building improvements for 1892 as reported by the local press was as follows:

John Scharnberg, hotel	\$3000
School building	1000
J. H. Dressen, store building.....	1000
Herman Lenz, store building.....	1000
Thomas Trenhaile, residence.....	800
H. T. Holverson, livery barn.....	800
W. E. Littel, residence.....	650
J. C. Johnston & Co., lumber sheds and office	600
A. A. Walvatne, store building.....	500
William Olson, blacksmith shop....	500
Charles Anderson, residence.....	400
J. B. Reed, residence.....	300
E. Olson, blacksmith shop.....	300
Henry Melarchy, butcher shop.....	200
Total	\$11,050

²⁰"No town in Rock county of equal age has come to the front more rapidly and developed brighter prospects of becoming a prosperous business point than Hardwick. It is surrounded by a splendid farming country, which until recently has been sparsely populated, but it is now rapidly coming into the hands of well-to-do and enterprising farmers." *Rock County Herald*, December 30, 1892.

²¹The land on section 35, upon which the original plat was located, was originally the property of the Western Land company. In 1890 it came into the possession of A. A. Walvatne, who in the summer of 1892 disposed of part of it to A. W. Sleeper.

The survey of the townsite was made September 1 and 2, 1892, by W. N. Davidson. The dedication was made September 12 by A. A. Walvatne and A. W. Sleeper, and the instrument was filed for record September 24.²¹ The original plat consisted of only four blocks. The streets east and west were named First, Main and Third; north and south the site was divided by Summit street.²²

The founding of new enterprises continued during the early part of 1893. A building was erected and a bank founded, under the management of D. J. Hawley, who in May was succeeded by George O. Ross; D. J. Stoakes opened a hardware store; the first grain elevator was erected by Otter Otterson; Hauger & Sackett put up a building and opened a feed mill. Thereafter for several years there was little advancement in Hardwick. The town maintained an excellent grain market, and hundreds of carloads were shipped each year; the few business houses were well supported and the village continued to hold its own with the neighboring hamlets during the lean years of the middle nineties. A directory published in the fall of 1898 showed the following business enterprises:²³ J. B. Iverson, Hullett Brothers & Co. and Heckt Brothers, general merchandise; Q. Stark, hardware; Stephen Brothers, meat market; J. C. Johnston & Co., lumber yard, L. M. Larson, manager; T. O. Tollefson, livery, grain and live stock; August Stroehbein, Hardwick hotel; Hardwick Elevator company, grain; Holverson & Jargo, grain; E. A. Brown, grain and live stock; Daven-

²²Additions to Hardwick have been platted as follows:

Ross', by George O. Ross, May 10, 1899; surveyed by W. N. Davidson.

Kennedy's, by Thomas F. Kennedy and James P. Kennedy, April 28, 1900; surveyed by W. N. Davidson.

Houg's, by Johanna Houg, July, 1900; surveyed by W. N. Davidson.

County Auditor's Outlots, by County Auditor, April 30, 1902; surveyed by W. N. Davidson.

Ross' Second, by George O. Ross, January 1, 1901; surveyed by W. N. Davidson.

²³"Hardwick has maintained a steady and substantial growth and is destined to become one

port Milling company, grain, J. Case, manager; A. T. Martinak, restaurant; T. F. Lange, barber shop; Engebret Olson, blacksmith shop; John Overland, blacksmith shop; August Stroehbeen, saloon; P. E. Matthieson, saloon.

Hardwick became a municipal corporation in 1898. So early in its history as 1893, however, the first attempt to bring about this desired condition was made. On July 20, 1893, a petition was presented to the board of county commissioners, asking it to take the necessary steps to bring about the incorporation of ten square miles of territory as the village of Hardwick, it being necessary to take in that much territory to secure the number of inhabitants required by law. The commissioners referred the matter to the county attorney, who held that the facts set forth in the petition did not satisfy the requirements of the law, and the county board refused to grant the petition. The residents of Hardwick employed A. J. Daley as their attorney and secured an alternate writ of mandamus from the district court, demanding that the commissioners either grant the petition or show cause in court why it should not be granted. At the hearing, which was set for August 4, Judge Brown quashed the writ, upholding the action of the county board, and Hardwick continued under the local government of Denver township.

The matter of incorporating was again taken up in the fall of 1898, and on October 7 the county commissioners called a special election, to be held October 10, to decide the matter. Out of a total of thirty-seven votes, twenty-six were in favor of

and eleven against incorporating the four southeast corner sections of Denver township into the village of Hardwick. The first village officers were chosen at another election, on October 25, and soon thereafter Hardwick began its municipal career. Following is a list of those elected to office during its history:²⁴

1898—President, J. B. Iverson; trustees, H. T. Holverson, James P. Kennedy, John Overland; recorder, George O. Ross; treasurer, L. M. Larson; justices, William Ross, F. W. Case; constables, C. J. Moe, Thomas Kennedy.

1899—President, J. B. Iverson; trustees, H. T. Holverson, James P. Kennedy, John Overland; recorder, L. M. Larson; treasurer, George O. Ross; justices, J. F. LaDou, William Ross; constables, Thomas Kennedy, D. J. Stoakes.

1900—President, J. B. Iverson; trustees, H. T. Holverson, James P. Kennedy, F. W. Case; recorder, J. D. Thompson; treasurer, L. M. Larson; justice, Thomas Trenhaile; constable, Thomas Kennedy.

1901—President, J. B. Iverson; trustees, H. T. Holverson, James P. Kennedy, Q. Stark; recorder, J. D. Thompson; treasurer, L. M. Larson; justices, Thomas Trenhaile, F. W. Case; constables, Thomas Kennedy, H. Schroder.

1902—President, W. T. Berry; trustees, R. A. Heckt, F. W. Case, John Overland; recorder, J. D. Thompson; treasurer, L. M. Larson; justice, William Ross; constable, E. I. Harding.

1903—President, Q. Stark; trustees, R. A. Heckt, D. J. Stoakes, James P. Kennedy; recorder, H. T. Holverson; treasurer, L. M. Larson; justice, A. H. Higley; constables, Thomas Kennedy, C. J. Moe.

1904—President, Q. Stark; trustees, James P. Kennedy, D. J. Stoakes, L. M. Larson; recorder, H. T. Holverson; treasurer, R. A. Heckt; justice, William Ross; constable, Thomas Kennedy.

1905—President, E. C. Heckt; trustees, John Overland, Otto Borgenquest, F. W. Case; recorder, A. J. Hemmings; treasurer, R. A. Heckt; justice, O. E. Fellows;²⁵ constable, William Ryan.²⁶

1906—President, H. T. Holverson; trustees, John Overland, Adolph Carl, F. W. Case;²⁷ recorder, T. S. Hartley; treasurer,

of the most important business points in Rock county outside of Luverne. It has an excellent grain and stock market and has a large and increasing trade from a section of the county which is rapidly increasing in population. Several new buildings have been erected this season and more are contemplated."—Rock County Herald, October 14, 1898.

²⁴Saloon licenses have always been granted in Hardwick. During its municipal career the question of license has been voted on three

times in 1899, 1900 and 1903. License carried each time, the vote being, respectively, 29 to 21, 37 to 18, and 42 to 20.

²⁵In April, 1905, H. T. Holverson and A. H. Higley were appointed justices.

²⁶Thomas Kennedy was appointed constable in April, 1905.

²⁷Resigned in May and was succeeded by M. L. Wahlert.



SCENES AT HARDWICK

R. A. Heckt; justices, M. L. Wahlert,²⁸ E. T. Thorson; constables, W. T. Murray, O. Bakka.

1907—President, H. T. Holverson; trustees, John Overland, R. A. Heckt, James P. Kennedy; recorder, D. J. Ross; treasurer, E. C. Heckt; justices, T. O. Tollefson, T. S. Hartley; constables, Emil Paustian, Will Mannigel.

1908—President, James P. Kennedy; trustees, Thomas Trenhaile, D. J. Stoakes, R. A. Heckt; recorder, H. T. Holverson; treasurer, E. C. Heckt; justice, E. T. Thorson; constable, Albert Sodeman.

1909—President, James P. Kennedy; trustees, Thomas Trenhaile, D. J. Stoakes, R. A. Heckt;²⁹ recorder, H. T. Holverson; treasurer, E. C. Heckt; justices, P. T. Petersen, W. F. Ihde; constables, W. T. Murray, Emil Paustian.

1910—President, James P. Kennedy; trustees, D. J. Stoakes, F. G. Hartley, O. H. Gravatt; recorder, H. T. Holverson; treasurer, E. C. Heckt; justice, P. T. Petersen; constable, W. T. Murray.

1911—President, James P. Kennedy; trustees, T. S. Hartley, O. H. Gravatt, J. H. Johnson; recorder, J. B. Iverson; treasurer, E. C. Heckt; assessor, M. L. Wahlert; justices, P. T. Petersen, H. T. Holverson; constables, W. T. Murray, Henry Hoffman.

With the prosperous times in the country a decade ago Hardwick kept pace and made rapid strides forward. The town's second railroad—the branch from Worthington—was completed in 1900. The federal census of that year gave the village a population of 259. A system of water works was installed by the village in that year at a cost of \$1590.³⁰ The year 1901 was an exceptionally active one in building operations. The village authorities purchased shade trees, with which they lined the streets and otherwise made arrangements for making a "city beautiful." Each year witnessed an increase in the business blocks and residences erected. Several brick blocks were put up in 1905, and later most of the board walks of the town were replaced with cement. A city hall was erected in 1908.

The Hardwick of today differs vastly from the site a quarter of a century ago,

when the few people residing in northern Rock county were vainly endeavoring to have the railroad company do something in regard to locating a town on "section 26." The growth of this town vividly illustrates the changes that have occurred in northern Rock county during the last twenty-five years. The population of Hardwick in 1910 was 292, a substantial gain over former enumerations.

THE SCHOOL.

For several years before a school was conducted in Hardwick, the school of district No. 48 was maintained about a mile from the townsite. Among the teachers of this country school were Sarah Maher, Flora Mather, Emma A. Wright, Elma Crossman and Myra Ferguson. In 1892 thirty-seven pupils were enrolled. At a school meeting of the district on August 12, 1892, it was decided to erect a school house in the new village, and the old building was sold to J. B. Reed for \$90. The same fall a one-room building, 24x32 feet, was erected, but school was not begun in it until November, 1893, when E. W. Hunnicutt was employed as teacher. A year later another story was added to the building.

This pioneer building served the district many years. In the spring of 1906, by a vote of 33 to 21, the electors decided to bond for \$7000 for the purpose of raising money to build a new school house. Following this action the present building—one of the finest in the smaller towns of the county—was put up at a cost of \$10,000. It is a four-room building, was built of Luverne pressed brick, and was constructed by Greene & Gilham. The present enrollment is about one hundred, and three teachers are employed.

²⁸Succeeded by John Matthiesen in May.

²⁹Resigned in June and was succeeded by O. H. Gravatt.

³⁰This was replaced in 1909 by modern equipment at a cost of several thousand dollars, and Hardwick now has one of the best water works plants in the county with water and power sufficient to supply the wants of a town many times its size.

THE CHURCHES.

Four church societies have organizations in Hardwick, of which two have houses of worship. The Presbyterian was one of the first organized and that society was the first to erect an edifice. The building was dedicated January 23, 1898, by Rev. W. J. Johnson and Rev. J. D. Gibbs. The total cost of the building was about \$1400. Services are now not regularly held. Rev. R. H. Moodie is the present pastor.

The German Lutheran Synod church was organized in the nineties by Rev. Brinkman with only five or six members. For several years services were held in the school house, but in 1901 the church edifice, costing nearly \$2000, was put up. Services are held every two weeks by Rev. H. AmEnde, of Jasper.

The Independent German Lutheran church was organized several years ago. Services are held every third Sunday in the Presbyterian church building by Rev. E. C. H. Peithmann, of Webster, South Dakota.

The United Norwegian congregation maintains an organization. Services are conducted every third Sunday by Rev. O. J. Mundahl, of Laverne.

THE LODGES.

Four lodges have active organizations in Hardwick, the Modern Woodmen of America, Royal Neighbors of America, Odd Fellows and Rebekahs.

The oldest of these is Hardwick Camp No. 3851, M. W. A. It was instituted May 11, 1896, by M. H. Carleton. Following were the first officers and charter members: J. F. LaDou, V. C.; J. P. Kennedy, W. A.; E. H. Albrecht, clerk; H. T. Holverson, banker; L. M. Larson, escort; Thomas Kennedy, watchman; D. J. Stoakes, sentry; T. E. Kirby, H. F.

Heiden, H. N. Warner, S. A. Dailey, C. J. Moe, Henry Meyer, Ole J. Foss, S. Sanderson, George O. Ross.

Valentine Lodge No. 1993, R. N. A., was instituted February 16, 1901, with the following charter members: Petra Moe, Minnie T. Case, Emma Piepgras, Marie LaDou, Liza Abbott, W. L. Armstrong, Stella Fellows, Mina C. Dailey, Ella S. Beaty, Lydia Groen, Ella Reed, E. O. Bredekken, S. A. Dailey, L. M. Larson, Florence Bruce, J. F. LaDou, David Fellows, George Piepgras, Clara Peterson, Mary Harding.

Hardwick Lodge No. 90, I. O. O. F., which now has a membership of about fifty, began its organization February 12, 1909, with the following named nine members: M. L. Wahlert, Herman Hemme, O. H. Gravatt, John Oye, Hans H. Hansen, William F. C. Krohn, John F. Krohn, John Holmbeck, M. L. Hatch.

Evangeline Lodge No. 125, Rebekahs, received its charter March 15, 1910. Its first officers and charter members were: Louise Wahlert, noble grand; Nina Hagedorn, vice noble grand; Tena Hatch, secretary; Dora Ahrendt, treasurer; John Oye, chaplain; M. L. Wahlert, M. L. Hatch, P. D. Whyte, Bertha Whyte, W. O. Larson, T. H. Marxon, Carolyn Paustian, Lillian Paustian, Anna Heckt, Maria Oye, H. J. Hemme, Anna Hemme, Emma Will, Nora Piepgras, Anna Wiese.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Hardwick has an efficient fire department with an active organization. So early as the spring of 1899, before the water works system was installed, we find the city council investing \$25 for three patent fire extinguishers. This constituted the fire department of the village for about two years. After the water works plant was installed, in January, 1901, a cart and hose were purchased and

a department organized. A reorganization was effected in 1905, when E. Olson was chosen chief. Since that time the department has maintained an active organization. The present officers are W. T. Murray, chief; L. A. Tollefson, assistant chief; E. V. Iverson, secretary; O. H. Gravatt, treasurer.

THE BANK.

The Farmers State Bank of Hardwick is the only financial institution of the town. It was organized as a private bank in January, 1893, by A. W. Sleeper, E. E. Brintnall and D. J. Hawley. It opened its doors in a lumber office and was under the local management of Mr. Hawley. In May, 1893, it passed to the control of E. E. Taylor and George O. Ross, and during the next eleven years Mr. Ross conducted the bank. From June, 1904, until after the reorganization D. J. Ross was the cashier and local manager.

The Farmers State Bank succeeded the private institution December 13, 1907, when it began business with a capital stock of \$10,000. The officers of the new concern were E. E. Taylor, president; Harry H. Buck, vice president; D. J. Ross, cashier. Other incorporators were B. B. Van Steenburg, A. E. Buck, O. H. Gravatt, H. T. Holverson and C. H. Christopherson. Mr. Ross was succeeded as cashier April 30, 1908, by O. H. Gravatt, the present officer in charge. In January, 1910, the stock owned by H. H. Buck was purchased by local parties, and the stock is now owned almost entirely by residents of Hardwick and vicinity. The officers and directors in 1910 were as follows: H. T. Holverson, president; C. H. Christopherson, vice president; O. H. Gravatt, cashier; M. L. Wahlert and E. E. Taylor. In December, 1910, the capital stock was increased to \$15,000.

CHAPTER XII.

BEAVER CREEK AND MAGNOLIA.

ON THE banks of the "roaring" Beaver creek, eight and one-half miles southwest of the capital city of Rock county, is the little village of Beaver Creek, a village which has played an important part in the history of Rock county. Excepting Luverne, Beaver Creek is the oldest municipality in the county. Founded during the closing days of the great grasshopper devastation, it rapidly grew to a place of importance, and before it had reached years of discretion was contesting with Luverne for county seat honors. For a dozen years after its founding Beaver Creek continued to prosper; then came a bad fire, followed by the lean years of the early nineties, and the town took a backward step. At one time its very existence was threatened by the establishment of a rival town a few miles away. Better times came, and during the last decade Beaver Creek has advanced until it again takes rank among the progressive places of a prosperous county.

Situated in the midst of a fine farming country that is thickly settled with an intelligent class of people, Beaver Creek has an exceptionally good, though limited,

trade territory. It is served by the Worthington-Mitchell branch of the Omaha railroad, of which road it was at one time the terminus. The village has substantial business houses and fine residences, as well as the public enterprises and institutions that make a community a desirable one in which to live.

The site on which Beaver Creek is located was recognized from the very earliest days as a desirable one on which to locate a town, and so early as 1873 a plat for a town only a stone's throw from the present village was surveyed, with the intention of founding a city. R. D. Buchanan, the promoter of a colony of New Yorkers who located in the vicinity, conceived the idea (and started to put into execution his plan) of founding a town at a point just southwest of the present village. During the month of May he had the site surveyed¹ and promised the early founding of the town. Mr. Buchanan came out to Rock county with another colony in August, with the announced intention of giving his attention to the new enterprise, but that is the last mention in the local press we have of the city. Like many another city con-

¹" . . . In response to this demand it has been deemed the part of prudence and good judgment to start another town, and the valley of the Beaver is the locality selected, at a point about ten miles west of Luverne. It is situated on the northeast quarter of the south-

east quarter of section 29, township 102, range 46, upon land donated for the purpose by Ira Crawford, Esquire. The survey has been made and the town platted by P. J. Kniss, county surveyor."—Rock County Herald, May 30, 1873.

ceived in the western country in an early day, it "died aborning."

Beaver Creek had its birth in the fall of 1877, and came into existence as a result of the extension of the Worthington & Sioux Falls (now the Omaha) road to that point. The year before this the road had been built from Worthington to Luverne and the survey extended westward to Sioux Falls. In August, 1877, Ex-Governor Stephen Miller, then in the employ of the railroad company, began purchasing right-of-way for the road west of Luverne, work of constructing the line was commenced in October, track laying was completed to the site of Beaver Creek early in December, and in the first part of January train service was established to the new station.

Before the line was completed to the site, however, the town of Beaver Creek had made its debut. Charles Williams, who owned a farm on section 28, Beaver Creek township, donated eighty acres of land to the railway company for townsite purposes (reserving one block of the plat for himself), the selection of the site being announced about the middle of September.² From the eighth to the eleventh day of October, inclusive, O. D. Brown, a surveyor, was engaged in plating the townsite for the Worthington & Sioux Falls Railroad company; the dedication was made October 27 by Horace Thompson, president, and George A. Hamilton, secretary, of the railroad company, and the plat was filed in the office of the register of deeds October 30. The original plat consisted of nineteen blocks.³ The name first proposed for the prospective

town was Bishop, in honor of General J. W. Bishop, manager-in-chief of the Sioux City & St. Paul railway lines, but before the plat was put on record the new town was named Beaver Creek, after the creek and township of that name.⁴

Hardly had the location of the site been announced in September when preparations were made by several persons to engage in business in the prospective town. Colonel Harrison White, who was destined to play such an important part in the history of the place, was one of the first. At the time he was employed as a clerk in the St. Paul office of the Sioux City & St. Paul Railway company and determined that he would engage in business in one of the new towns to be established along the road when built. In October, 1877, he shipped a carload of lumber for a store building from St. Paul, which arrived before the road was completed to the town. It was brought by train to the farm of E. H. Bronson, one mile east of the proposed town, and from that point was hauled by team. He set the stakes for his building on Thanksgiving day. Before Colonel White got his building under way, several others had put up buildings in the town and established business houses.

The first building was started late in October. It was a hotel by Charles Williams, and its dimensions were 26x52 feet, with 20 foot posts. It was not completed, however, until later. Several other business houses were established and buildings put up before the close of the year. The depot was erected and late in November J. L. Helm arrived on the site as agent;

²"Mr. Williams was among the earliest settlers on that wide reaching prairie, and now, after a brief period, he finds himself located almost in the path of the iron horse and his dwelling in the very heart of a prospective village."—Rock County Herald, October 5, 1877.

³Additions to Beaver Creek have been platted as follows:

First, by Daniel Shell and C. H. Smith, July 1, 1886; surveyed by Orrin Nason.

Crawford's, by J. F. Crawford, Daniel Shell, C. H. Smith and F. S. Gibson, February 9, 1887; surveyed by Orrin Nason.

County Auditor's Outlots, by County Auditor, October 16, 1909; surveyed by W. N. Davidson.

"The creek was so named because of the many beaver and their dams which lined the stream when the first settlers came. The township was named after the creek at a meeting of the settlers held in August, 1872.

C. K. Howard erected a warehouse and W. H. Bryan began buying grain for him late in November; B. F. Roderick completed a warehouse, 22x50 feet, with a capacity of 10,000 bushels, early in December; George Henton erected a shop and engaged in the blacksmith business about the same time; Colonel White established the third grain warehouse; he received the first shipment over the road to Beaver Creek—fifteen cars of lumber,—built a shed and established the first lumber yard, which was in charge of William Strong; W. H. Glass started a store building in which he later began business; a Mr. Myers opened a boarding house. These, so far as I am able to ascertain, constituted the activities in the little town up to the beginning of the year 1878.

During the winter and early spring months the activities in the little village continued. Two other lumber yards were established during the winter. One was by a gentleman named Bates; the other was by the Van Eps interests of Sioux Falls and was in charge of Tom Diffendoff. Both were temporary and were moved away within a short time. Colonel White opened his general store in January and was followed the same month by C. K. Howard and W. H. Glass, who dealt in general merchandise, J. O. Britson being in charge of Mr. Glass' store.⁵ Gullick Sundem, a Martin township homesteader, opened a harness repair shop in Colonel White's lumber office. Mr. Myers, who had conducted the first boarding house, left Beaver Creek and in the building left vacant K. Knudtson opened a har-

ness shop, later admitting Gullick Sundem as a partner. William Wilson built a small learn-to to the Glass store building, in which he opened a hardware store as a branch to his Luverne business; in the same building Al. Atchison opened a shoe repair shop. William Mead constructed a building on the north side of the track, in which he established the Beaver hotel. In the rear of this building was put up another blacksmith shop, which was conducted only a short time. The Williams hotel, the first structure begun on the site, was completed early in the year. Daniel Shell, of Worthington, operated a stage line between Beaver Creek and Sioux Falls and opened a livery barn, which was under the management of Leonard McClintock. Dr. W. T. Berry came early in 1878 and for a number of years practised his profession. Besides these business houses put up, Colonel White erected a number of dwelling houses for his employes and a few other residences were erected. The postoffice was moved from the country to the village in the spring of 1878 with C. R. Henton as postmaster.⁶

For a few months the youthful village was the terminus of the railroad and it at once came into prominence as one of the most lively communities in this part of the state. Being the end of the railroad, it became the distributing point for the frontier towns of eastern Dakota, and the business transacted by the pioneer firms was marvelous. Its trade territory extended so far north as Flandreau; west, halfway to Sioux Falls, and south for many miles. With the

⁵The Glass store building is now the postoffice building and is the oldest one on the townsite.

⁶The Beaver Creek postoffice was established in June, 1873, at the home of Charles Williams, three-quarters of a mile east of the present village, and Mr. Williams was the first postmaster. He was succeeded by C. R. Henton, who served until March, 1880. J. O. Tyler was postmaster from that date until May, 1886, when he was succeeded by John B. Obele. In

February, 1890, James Marshall took the office and served a four year term. John B. Obele again became postmaster in February, 1894, and served until 1898. He was succeeded by L. B. Sage, who held the office only until the next year. Herman Ohs was postmaster from 1899 until his death ten years later. H. R. Ohs, his son, succeeded to the office in April, 1909, and is the present postmaster. Beaver Creek has one rural route, established in 1902.

extension of the railroad westward in the summer of 1878 the village was shorn of some of its former activity, and the business houses that had been established temporarily were removed. Thereafter it settled down to normal conditions, and, although there were few new business enterprises launched in the next few years, the town continued to be a prosperous one, drawing trade from a very rich and rapidly developing territory, almost illimitable to the north and south. The census of 1880 gave the village a population of thirty-seven.

A directory of the business enterprises of the village in the summer of 1881 shows only the following: Harrison White, general merchant and grain dealer; Cox & Knudtson, general merchandise (established in June, 1881); Berry & White, drug store; Dr. W. T. Berry, physician; J. O. Tyler, proprietor of a cheese factory, landlord of the Beaver Creek hotel and postmaster. From this directory it will be noted that there had been a falling off in the business houses of the town from the first year of its existence. But in 1882 began a more prosperous era, which extended over a period of several years and in which Beaver Creek advanced to a point never before attained.

Among the new enterprises started in 1882 were a harness shop by John Obele, a hardware store by J. O. Brietson, a grocery store by B. F. Roderick & Co., and a drug store by J. M. Park. A directory of March, 1883, furnishes this list: A. G. Seney, general merchandise; K. N. Knudtson, dry goods and groceries; Harrison White, lumber, fuel, grain and live stock; J. O. Brietson, hardware; J. M. Park, drug store; A. Obele, hotel; John B.

Obele, harness shop; Kiffe & Obele, blacksmith and wagon shop; Mrs. J. O. Tyler, millinery store.

The year 1883 was a very prosperous one and many new buildings were put up, including three store buildings, a warehouse and several residences. The Herald at the close of the year told of a visit:

A visit to Beaver Creek, after an absence of a year, will discover to the visitor numerous changes and improvements. Indeed, he will find that the town has nearly doubled in size, and that its importance as a business point has materially increased.

There is no mistaking the fact that Beaver Creek is enjoying a very substantial "boom" and that its prospects are brighter than ever before in its history. As a matter of fact, there is no town of its size that receives more grain and stock, and no town of its size that does, in a general way, a larger business.

The activity continued during 1884 and almost took the nature of a boom. New buildings went up all over the town and several new business houses were established. Rock county in general was enjoying prosperous times and good crops, and Beaver Creek kept pace with the general advance.⁷ At this time five warehouses were required to take care of the grain that poured in.

It was while these conditions prevailed that Beaver Creek became an incorporated village. In the summer of 1884 the residents petitioned Judge Severance of the district court for an order declaring the village incorporated. The court heard the petition August 27 and on September 19 issued the necessary order. Colonel Harrison White, J. M. Park and Abram Osmun were named a committee to call the first election, which was set for October 2. Forty-two votes were cast at the first election. Following is a list of Beaver Creek residents who have been

⁷"Beaver Creek, in respect to general improvements and the erection of new buildings, is coming rapidly to the front. The growth of the town during the past year has been considerably greater than that of the previous year and it enters upon the present season with

increased vitality and enterprise. There is no reason apparent why Beaver Creek should not become a town of no inconsiderable importance."—Rock County Herald, September 19, 1884.



SCENES AT BEAVER CREEK

elected to office from the date of incorporation to the present time:⁸

1884—President, Harrison White; trustees, Abram Osmun, C. C. Cox, Andrew Obele; recorder, John Park; treasurer, James D. Campbell; justices, Oliver A. Hume, George B. Roderick; constable, John Carney.

1885—President, Harrison White; trustees, A. C. Goltz, C. C. Cox, Andrew Obele; recorder, George B. Roderick; treasurer, J. O. Britton; justices, Oliver A. Hume, J. B. Obele;⁹ constable, John Carney.¹⁰

1886—President, Harrison White; trustees, A. C. Goltz, Andrew Obele, John Carney; recorder, George B. Roderick; treasurer, J. O. Britton.

1887—President, F. D. Ressegieu; trustees, J. H. Gibson, Fred Ward, A. W. Hadwick; recorder, C. H. Humphrey; treasurer, J. O. Britton; justice, Sam Henderson.

1888—President, F. D. Ressegieu; trustees, J. H. Gibson, Fred Ward, J. A. Shaver; recorder, J. B. Obele; treasurer, J. O. Britton; justice, W. H. Leavens;¹¹ constable, C. C. Cox.¹²

1889—President, Harrison White; trustees, Fred Ward, J. W. Leslie, Thomas Weston; recorder, J. B. Obele; treasurer, I. H. Burt; justice, A. J. Daley; constable, B. F. Gibson.

1890—President, Fred Ward; trustees, J. W. Leslie, Thomas Weston, G. C. Tunstall; recorder, Olaf Skyberg; treasurer, J. P. Richardson; justices, J. H. Adams, Leon Carr; constables, C. C. Cox, R. Reetz.

1891—President, Harrison White; trustees, Theodore Winchell, Thomas Weston, G. C. Tunstall; recorder, J. B. Obele; treasurer, J. P. Richardson; justice, James Marshall; constable, G. C. Mather.

1892—President, Fred Ward; trustees, E. H. Moreland, Jacob Hettinger, Andrew Obele; recorder, J. B. Obele; treasurer, J. P. Richardson; justices, J. H. Adams, James Marshall; constables, C. C. Cox, A. B. Price.

1893—President, Harrison White; trustees, E. H. Moreland, Jacob Hettinger, E. F. Baker; recorder, H. J. Smelser; treasurer, J. P. Richardson; justice, L. H. Owen; constable, A. E. Jordahl.

1894—President, Harrison White; trustees, E. H. Moreland, Jacob Hettinger, G.

H. Worley; recorder, L. B. Sage; treasurer, I. H. Burt; justices, J. H. Adams, A. B. Vines; constable, Theodore Winchell.

1895—President, Abram Osmun; trustees, W. T. Berry, Ira Crawford, Theodore Winchell; recorder, J. H. Adams; treasurer, O. B. Bratager; justice, L. B. Sage; constables, A. E. Jordahl, E. C. Conant.

1896—President, Abram Osmun; trustees, Ira Crawford, Theodore Winchell, G. C. Pluedeman; recorder, A. B. Vines; treasurer, O. B. Bratager; justices, J. H. Adams, Seth Crawford; constables, A. E. Jordahl, John Carney.

1897—President, Abram Osmun; trustees, Theodore Winchell, G. C. Pluedeman, E. J. Dunbar; recorder, A. B. Vines; treasurer, O. B. Bratager; justice, E. C. Brooks; constable, F. E. Welker.

1898—President, E. J. Dunbar; trustees, Theodore Winchell, J. S. Crawford, John Carney; recorder, W. J. Kinne;¹³ treasurer, O. B. Bratager;¹⁴ justice, J. B. Obele; constable, F. E. Henton.

1899—President, E. J. Dunbar; trustees, Theodore Winchell, J. S. Crawford, John Carney; recorder, J. B. Obele; treasurer, F. E. Welker; justices, E. C. Brooks, J. S. Crawford;¹⁵ constable, F. E. Henton.

1900—President, E. J. Dunbar; trustees, Theodore Winchell, J. S. Crawford, H. R. Ohs; recorder, J. B. Obele; treasurer, F. E. Welker.

1901—President, E. J. Dunbar; trustees, Theodore Winchell, J. S. Crawford, John Carney; recorder, J. B. Obele; treasurer, F. E. Welker; justice, E. C. Brooks.

1902—President, E. J. Dunbar; trustees, John Carney, Samuel Loe, W. A. Speed; recorder, J. B. Obele; treasurer, G. F. Chisholm; justice, Ira Crawford; constable, Knudt Loe.

1903—President, H. J. Ferguson; trustees, Samuel Loe, W. A. Speed, F. A. Welker; recorder, J. B. Obele; treasurer, M. O. Page; justice, E. C. Brooks; constable, W. A. Weaver.

1904—President, H. J. Ferguson; trustees, Samuel Loe, F. E. Welker, A. J. Tangeman; recorder, L. Misener;¹⁶ treasurer, M. O. Page; justice, L. Misener; constable, T. N. Adams.

1905—President, F. E. Welker; trustees, A. J. Tangeman, S. L. Todd, F. E. Henton; recorder, F. M. Jones; treasurer, M. O.

⁸The license question has a number of times been submitted to the voters. So early as the spring of 1878, when the town had just been started, the matter of license or no license was submitted to the voters of the township, no-license winning by a vote of 79 to 34. During most of its incorporated history Beaver Creek has granted license. Following is the result of the vote on the question at the times it was submitted (perhaps not complete): 1887, for license by 15 majority; 1888, for, 39, against, 27; 1891, for, 21, against, 17; 1893, license carried; 1899, for, 18, against, 21; 1900, license by 6 majority; 1907, for, 14, against, 35.

⁹A. J. Daley and J. O. Tyler were elected justices at a special election November 17, 1885.

¹⁰Resigned February 4, 1886, and was succeeded by J. B. Obele.

¹¹At a special election in July, 1888, H. Kiffe and A. W. Hadwick were elected.

¹²B. F. Gibson elected at a special election in July, 1888.

¹³Resigned in September, 1898, and was succeeded by J. B. Obele.

¹⁴Resigned in September, 1898, and was succeeded by F. E. Welker.

¹⁵Did not qualify.

¹⁶Resigned in June.

Page; justices, E. C. Brooks, G. B. Whitney; constable, O. H. Hazel.

1906—President, F. E. Welker; trustees, A. J. Tangeman, S. L. Todd, F. E. Henton; recorder, W. E. Leeman; treasurer, M. O. Page; justices, G. B. Whitney, E. C. Brooks; constable, T. N. Adams.

1907—President, F. E. Welker; trustees, H. R. Ohs, J. C. Claussen, T. A. Grout; recorder, J. R. Doan;¹⁷ treasurer, M. O. Page; justice, E. C. Brooks; constable, G. B. Whitney.

1908—President, F. E. Welker; trustees, J. C. Claussen, F. E. Henton, L. M. Merkel; recorder, B. R. Page; treasurer, M. O. Page; justice, E. C. Brooks; constable, G. B. Whitney.

1909—President, F. E. Welker; trustees, J. C. Claussen, F. E. Henton, L. M. Merkel; recorder, H. S. Cragg; treasurer, M. O. Page; justice, E. C. Brooks, constable, James Vopat.

1910—President, F. E. Welker; trustees, L. M. Merkel, James Vopat, A. G. Gilbert; recorder, H. S. Cragg; treasurer, M. O. Page; justice, E. C. Brooks; constable, G. B. Whitney.

1911—President, H. S. Cragg; trustees, James Vopat, Henry Nowka, Frank Loose; recorder, E. J. Dunbar; treasurer, M. O. Page; justice, F. E. Welker; constable, N. L. Merkel.

The banner year in Beaver Creek's whole history was 1885. A correspondent writing in October said: "Business lots on First avenue are in demand. An addition to the town plat is talked of in order to supply the increasing want. Buildings are going up in every direction and we haven't mechanics enough to supply the orders for work." The Herald on June 12 told of the progress the town was making:

There is no mistaking the fact that Beaver Creek is enjoying a lively "boom." To one who has not visited the place for a few months the transformation wrought during that time is surprising. In fact, Beaver Creek of a year ago is practically a thing of the past, and in its stead a new town has appeared. New buildings appear in all parts of the village and the business lots which but a short time ago were vacant are now, particularly along the portion of the business street east of the corners occu-

pied respectively by Colonel White and K. N. Knudtson, covered with substantial business houses. Moreover, the town authorities have been active and enterprising in the matter of public improvements. The streets have been graded, the public buildings and grounds improved, and new sidewalks have been built along the entire length of First avenue, as well as upon other streets.

An even thirty buildings, the total value of which was \$30,000, were erected during the year 1885,¹⁸ of which sixteen were business houses.¹⁹ A business directory published in June (after which a newspaper, bank and several other enterprises were started) gave the following list of business men: L. C. Mittelstadt & Co., lumber yard (A. C. Goltz, manager); J. O. Brietson, hardware and implements; John Obele, harness shop; Harry Kiffe, wagon shop; Dr. W. T. Berry, physician and drug store; A. E. Patterson, implements; J. M. Park, drug store; George B. Roderick, groceries and provisions; K. N. Knudtson, general merchandise; J. M. Bennett, saloon and billiard hall; Pat Toohey, saloon and billiard hall; George Tunstall, carpenter and cabinet maker; Dr. Cummings, physician; Jacob Hettinger, blacksmith shop; A. Hess, shoe shop and boarding house; L. S. Welker, meat market; J. O. Tyler, postmaster; Mrs. J. O. Tyler, millinery store; Mr. Evans, temperance saloon; Colonel Harrison White, general merchandise, grain and live stock; Hume & Campbell, lumber and furniture; A. Obele, blacksmith shop; John Gassoway, barber shop; Fred Scott, dry line.

During this period in the career of the town, when it boasted a population of 165, according to the census of 1885, in the winter of 1885-86, its residents sought

¹⁷Succeeded in May by E. C. Brooks.

¹⁸Figures by the Sioux Falls Press, January, 1886.

¹⁹Among those who erected business houses were L. C. Mittelstadt & Co., John B. Obele, Henry Kiffe, K. N. Knudtson, J. M. Bennett,

Pat Toohey, Dr. Cummings, H. Hess, J. O. Tyler and J. A. Hettinger. Among those who erected residences were E. C. Conant, J. D. Campbell, Abram Osmun, C. C. Cox, O. A. Hume, William Carney, Thomas Carney, R. Reitz, John Mickelson, G. B. Roderick, Will Leavans, A. C. Goltz, J. O. Brietson and Harrison White.

to wrest the county seat from Laverne. An active campaign was waged for a few weeks, but the obstacles to be overcome were too great and the effort was abandoned.

During the latter half of the eighties, before the railroads brought competing towns, Beaver Creek continued to be a thriving and progressive village. The fast developing country surrounding brought prosperity to its merchants, and the little town continued its forward march until a series of events occurred which put a damper on all progress. The building of two new lines of railway, both of which passed close to the town, and the founding of Bruce, Manley and Hills in its former territory were serious blows. Then came two fires, destroying many of the business houses and entailing losses of many thousand dollars, which added to the retrogression.

The first fire occurred April 9, 1889, when the roller mill, an elevator and several sheds, in addition to several thousand bushels of grain, were entirely destroyed by the "lurid leveler." The destruction of the town was threatened, but by hard work the flames were confined to the structures mentioned. The loss was \$25,000. Following the fire came agitation for installing a system of waterworks, but at an election to vote bonds for the purpose on September 5, the proposition was defeated by five votes out of a total of forty-three.

The next conflagration came early on the morning of December 3, 1889, when seven business houses on the north side of Main street with their contents were consumed. The fire is supposed to have been of incendiary origin and was started in a

vacant store building owned by J. O. Tyler. Although the alarm was sounded at once, the people were not able to stay the progress of the flames with the force pump and the one line of one-inch hose, which constituted the town's fire fighting apparatus. The total loss was placed at \$9000, covered by only \$3500 insurance. The losses were as follows: Harrison White, store building, machine shed and outbuildings, \$4000; E. C. Conant, damage to general merchandise stock in Colonel White's building, \$1000; L. S. Welker, meat market building, \$400; E. A. Baker, fixtures and meat stock, \$200; J. O. Tyler, vacant store building, \$1200; T. O. Meyers, vacant store building, \$500; Nels Clemetson, hotel building, \$1000; Thomas Evans, saloon building, \$600.

The burned district was not rebuilt; the new town of Hills, six miles south, cut off a valuable part of its trade territory; the promoters of the town of Manley, only three and one-half miles away, were boldly planning the removal of the unfortunate town to their site; local jealousy divided the town into factions in considering matters of public benefit²⁰—and Beaver Creek came upon evil days. Dwellings became tenantless and some were moved away; store buildings became vacant and dilapidated, and the business interests of the town were threatened.

The census of 1890 gave Beaver Creek a population of 232 people. In the spring of the next year the business portion of the town consisted of a hotel, lumber yard, cheese factory and creamery, three general stores, a bank, three warehouses, wagon shop, two blacksmith shops, drug store, two saloons, hardware store, harness shop,

²⁰Just so long as every enterprise or scheme for the improvement of Beaver Creek is made subservient to personal preferment, just so long will Beaver Creek retain its present high rank among the few imbecile towns of the state. It is high time that the spirit of jealousy is subdued and everyone join in a united effort to boom the town. In fact, it is imperatively

necessary in the present case, and unless a policy different from that heretofore pursued is adopted, little good will be derived from the enterprise, however promising the outlook. Lay aside all matters of pique and work for Beaver Creek."—Beaver Creek News-Letter, December, 1889.

shoe repairing shop, livery stable, barber shop and meat market.

Not until 1898 did Beaver Creek show signs of gaining its former prestige. Then came the turning of the tide. It had weathered the days of adversity and was once more gaining ground, starting out on a new era of growth and development which has not since been checked. A directory in the fall of 1898 listed the following business firms: F. E. Welker, Dunbar Brothers and G. F. Chisholm, general merchandise stores; Sage Brothers, hardware store; Dr. W. T. Berry, drug store; John B. Obele, harness shop; William McCurdy, meat market; Tuthill Lumber company, E. C. Brooks, manager; Lukensmeyer & Hettinger, blacksmith and wagon shop; F. E. Henton, blacksmith shop; Colonel Harrison White, implements, A. E. Jordahl, manager; Henry Olson, shoemaker; William J. Weston, saloon; St. John Brothers, grain, M. C. Reeder, manager; Hubbard & Palmer, grain, George Dunbar, manager; Peavey Elevator company, grain, Sol. Sage, manager; E. C. Pluedeman, depot agent.

The population of Beaver Creek in 1900 was 186, and this was increased to 202 in 1905. The 1910 census showed a population of 195. Within the last decade many public and private improvements have been made. The village has broad streets, lined with shade trees, and cement walks. It has church buildings and one of the finest school houses in the county. It has mercantile establishments that would be a credit to a town many times its size.

SCHOOL.

When Beaver Creek was founded late in the year 1877 it was in the territory of school district No. 15, the school house of which was located one-half mile west of town. In 1878 the old building was sold to another district and a one-room

building was erected in the village. The school was opened in September, 1878, with nearly fifty pupils in attendance and with Miss Jennie Grout as teacher. Other early teachers of the school were A. H. Grout, O. E. Ferguson, W. H. Hummell, Robert Ord and Laura Ord. An addition to the school house was made a few years after its erection, making a two-room building. This pioneer structure served the district until the present school house was erected, twenty-seven years later.

Late in 1904, by a vote of 64 to 10, the electors decided to erect a two-story, four-room brick building the following year. The contract for its erection was let in July, 1905, to Otto Miller on a bid of \$6500, and the building was dedicated November 11 of the same year. The total cost of the building, heating plant, and furnishings was about \$10,000. A two year high school course was established in 1909. There are now four departments, the enrollment, according to the annual report in June, 1910, being as follows: High school, 27; grammar department, 13; intermediate department, 29; primary department, 40; total enrollment, 109.

CHURCHES.

The church history of Beaver Creek antedates that of the founding of the town by a number of years. Three church organizations have been founded during the forty years that have elapsed since the first religious services were held. Two of these organizations, the Methodist and Presbyterian, are still represented at Beaver Creek. The Baptist society gave up its organization nine years ago.

The Methodist society was the first organized. The church of that denomination came into being following the first religious services held in Beaver Creek township. A tent, pitched near the habi-

tation of A. H. Grout, was the temple of neighborhood devotional services so early as the summer of 1871. New settlers, most of whom had left church affiliations in the east, became members of the Beaver Creek settlement in the course of another year, and one of the first concerns of the pioneers was to provide regular worship.

On Sunday, June 2, 1872, a meeting held at the sod house of B. I. Crossman resulted in the organization of a Sunday school. On the same occasion a Methodist class was also formed with William Grout as leader. Until the fall of 1872 the occasional services of the little congregation were conducted by the lay members. The first minister of the gospel to visit the Beaver Creek settlement was Rev. William Bear, of Worthington, who preached the first sermon in the township in the sod house of E. L. Grout. Rev. Bear at that time gave his official sanction to the class already organized. That same fall Dr. B. H. Crever, also of Worthington, preached to a large gathering at the home of William Grout.

The congregation became anxious for the services of a regular pastor, and in accordance with this desire a petition was prepared asking for the transfer of Rev. E. H. Bronson, the pastor of several of the settlers in their former home, from the Wisconsin conference to serve the new charge. The request was granted and Rev. Bronson, on the first Sunday following his arrival in the new country, June 20, 1873, conducted the first pastoral services in the open air before the home of William Grout. At the close of this meeting a formal church organization was perfected with a large membership. Among those most influential in bringing this event to fulfilment were William Grout, E. L. Grout, Charles Williams, F. Miercort, B. I. Crossman, Moses Ferguson and G. H.

Henton. Rev. Bronson, later assisted by Rev. J. M. Bull, continued in official charge of the Beaver Creek church, in connection with his other ministrations in Rock and adjoining counties, for a period of four and one-half years.

The first permanent house of worship was the school house erected in the Grout neighborhood during the spring of 1875. Services were later held in a newer school building closer to Beaver Creek village. The present church edifice was erected during the summer of 1886. It was dedicated free of debt by Rev. J. N. Liscomb, presiding elder of the Mankato district, on Sunday, June 19, 1887.

The Presbyterian church of Beaver Creek dates from May, 1878. During that month, at the solicitation of a number of followers of that denomination who had settled in the young village and vicinity, services were conducted in the old school house west of town by Elders D. C. Lyon and Edward Savage. Several weeks later Rev. Charles Thayer, who had been assigned as state synodical missionary for Rock county, made arrangements for services at Beaver Creek at stated intervals. It was through Rev. Thayer's efforts that a deputation from the Mankato presbytery came to Beaver Creek and organized the Presbyterian church on June 5, 1880, with about a dozen members.

In November of the same year it was decided to erect a church edifice. To this end a board of trustees, consisting of James Marshall, J. H. Stearns and J. D. Campbell, with Harrison White as treasurer, was elected. Within a few months a sum sufficient to build and furnish a church costing in the neighborhood of \$1400 was subscribed, and the railroad company donated a site of three blocks. Building operations were commenced early the next summer. The corner stone of

the church—the first erected in Beaver Creek—was laid on June 27, 1881. The first service in the church was conducted by the pastor, Rev. J. J. Munro, on Sunday, October 9, and the formal dedication occurred December 14.

The Baptist church of Beaver Creek was also established early. Rev. A. W. Hilton, the first pastor of the Luverne society, during the closing years of the seventies, organized a branch of that church. A formal organization was later perfected by Rev. Cyrus Thomas, and in 1886 the Beaver Creek Baptists erected a church edifice. The society was for many years in a flourishing condition, but in 1902, because of great loss in membership, principally by removals, it was deemed advisable to give up the organization. The church building was sold to a Valley Springs congregation and moved to that place. The proceeds of the sale were donated to the Luverne church, with whom most of the remaining members allied themselves, and were used for building purposes.

THE LODGES.

Three secret societies maintain active organizations in Beaver Creek. They are the Ancient Order of United Workmen, Degree of Honor and Brotherhood of American Yeomen.

For fifteen years Beaver Creek was the home of one of the leading posts in the county of the Grand Army of the Republic. John Buford Post,²¹ No. 166, G. A. R., was mustered in August 19, 1887, by Inspector W. H. Halbert, assisted by Comrade Philo Hawes. The new post commenced its existence with thirteen members and the following officers: Col. Harrison White, commander; Abram Osmun, senior vice commander; J. A. Hulett,

junior vice commander; A. W. Hadwick, quartermaster; J. M. Park, surgeon; O. A. Hulett, chaplain; A. G. Gilbert, officer of the day; Theodore Winchell, officer of the guard; C. R. Henton, adjutant; Niels Jacobson, quartermaster sergeant; E. C. Conant, sergeant major. Death and removals caused a depletion in the rank of members, and on November 18, 1902, the post surrendered its charter.

Beaver Creek Lodge No. 121, A. O. U. W., was granted its charter of organization July 30, 1890. The following were the first officers chosen: Harrison White, P. M. W.; E. C. Conant, M. W.; Edwin F. Baker, foreman; John H. Williams, overseer; George E. Mather, recorder; George B. Whitney, financier; Frank E. Welker, receiver; Frank J. Babbitt, guide; Andrew G. Gibbest, inside watch; Clarence A. Dike, outside watch. The lodge has a membership of about thirty at present.

An order of the Degree of Honor, auxiliary to the Workmen, Beaver Lodge No. 202, was instituted March 19, 1903. The first officers were: Mary C. Chaffin, P. L. of H.; Bertha Henton, L. of M.; Ida Carney, recorder; Amy Perry, receiver; Jennie Carney, I. W.; Nannie B. Welker, C. of H.; Mary C. Lukensmeyer, C. of C.; A. Gilbert, financier; Helen Toss, S. U.; Mary J. Raw, O. W.

The most recent society organized was the Beaver Creek Homestead No. 1958, B. A. Y., which was instituted September 23, 1908, and which at present has thirty-five members. The lodge was organized with the following ten charter members: Charles A. Baker, Otto A. Bowen, Delmer J. Bowen, Fred Connell, Edward J. Dunbar, Walter J. Fehrlhelm, H. R. Ohs, Percy A. Story, James Vopat and Charles H. Whitney.

²¹Named in honor of Gen. John Buford, who was the commander of the New York regiment to which Col. Harrison White was attached.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The matter of securing fire protection for Beaver Creek was first considered by the village council at a meeting held May 6, 1885. Harrison White was appointed fire warden, and authority given to a committee to purchase a complete outfit of hooks and ladders, hose and accessory equipment. A water supply was secured from a large force pump placed in the public well. A volunteer fire department was organized October 23, 1885, with Harrison White as chief and A. J. Daley as assistant. The facilities have since been improved, and now Beaver Creek is well prepared to combat the destructive flames.

BANKS.

Two banking institutions have found a home in Beaver Creek but at different periods of the town's history. F. S. Gibson opened a private bank in the village October 14, 1885. In the summer following this concern was merged into the Beaver Creek State Bank, which commenced business September 1, 1886, with a paid-up capital of \$25,000. The first officers and directors of the State Bank were F. S. Gibson, president; E. D. Hadley, vice president; J. O. Brictson, cashier; P. J. Kniss, George D. Dayton, Daniel Shell, C. H. Smith. The bank was operated for a number of years.

The First National Bank of Beaver Creek, incorporated for \$25,000, has been operated since January 1, 1909. At that time it succeeded to the business of the Bank of Beaver Creek, a private institution founded in September, 1902, by M. O. Page, Charles Shade, B. L. Richards, S. S. Wold and W. H. Bradley. Following the reorganization the following first officers and board of directors were chosen: Charles Shade, president; J. S.

Crawford, vice president; M. O. Page, cashier; E. J. Dunbar and Andrew Ingelson.

MAGNOLIA.

Magnolia, an incorporated village of eastern Rock county, is a station on the Worthington-Mitchell branch of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha railroad, seven miles east of Luverne. The line separating sections 11 and 14, Magnolia township, passes through the center of the village, which is situated one mile from the boundary line between Rock and Nobles counties. Magnolia has kept pace with the development of the county in general. In a business way it is well represented by lines usually found in towns of a few hundred inhabitants.

Though the Magnolia of today has been the development of the past two decades, the town was in the process of formation for approximately fifteen years before it received the impetus which ushered it in as a promising Rock county village. Its career has since been one of continued progress.

We may go back so far as 1872, several years before the first railroad found its way into the county, to commence tracing the course of events which have directly concerned the building of this Rock county village. In the spring of that year a postoffice, which the Magnolia office later succeeded, was established just over the county line on section 18, Westside township, Nobles county. This office was in charge of Renssellar Simmons and was known as Westside. It was a station on the old Worthington-Sioux Falls mail route, and for a number of years numbered as its patrons the early day settlers of the territory in which the future town was to be located.

The branch road of the Sioux City & St. Paul railway from Worthington to Sioux Falls was built into Rock county during the summer and fall of 1876. Luverne was the only established town and for awhile remained the only station on the line in the county. Before a year was over, however, the railroad officials selected a site for a second station on section 13, Magnolia township, in close proximity to the large farm owned by Hon. E. F. Drake, the president of the company. In his honor this "town" was christened Drake, or as it became more commonly known, Drake station. There was no idea at the time of founding a town, not even the first step of making a survey given a consideration. And during the eight years of its existence Drake developed but little beyond its original condition.

A depot was never built at that point, simply a platform. During its history only two business enterprises were established there, and then not until it was about to be forced to resign in favor of a newer rival a half mile to the west. When trains were put in operation on the new railroad the overland mail route from Worthington to Sioux Falls was discontinued, and after the establishment of Drake station, that was made the receiving point for the mail consigned to the Westside postoffice.

There were signs of activity at Drake station during the winter of 1882-83. In its issue of December 1, 1882, the Rock County Herald said: "The alleged village of Drake, commonly known as Drake station, is enjoying a real estate boom. The first lot ever sold in the place was transferred this week for the princely sum of \$1." In the course of the year 1883

Thompson Bros. erected a grain warehouse at Drake, and on October 1, of the same year, its only store opened for business. It carried a general stock of merchandise, flour, feed, wood, coal, etc., and was established as a branch store by Patterson & Walters, of Luverne. This firm conducted the business only a few months, selling to Philander Phinney, who later, in turn, transferred the business to Ira E. Crosby, who placed George Crandall in charge. There was some talk of moving the Westside postoffice to the Drake store, but the plan did not mature.

During the summer of 1884 an event occurred which resulted in the death of one proposed town and the birth of another. The victim in this case was Drake. That point had proven to be an undesirable location for any expansion on the part of the railroad company, in the way of building side tracks, as it was situated at the end of a long cut. So when a movement to found a town a half mile farther west was launched the railroad authorities offered their co-operation. The plan for the new town was largely the idea of Ex-Lieut. Gov. W. H. Yale, of Winona, who had large farming interests in Magnolia and Vienna townships, and who was desirous of founding a convenient market. He came to the site on July 16, 1884, prepared to plat the site of the proposed town.²² Any plat that may have been made at this time, however, was never placed on record. Yet there was a start made of the town. The railroad company secured ground at the new location and erected a depot building in October, 1884. The station was opened March 13, 1885, and a Mr. Cook, formerly of Ashton, Iowa, installed as agent.

The year 1885 witnessed the complete

²²Ex-Gov. W. H. Yale arrived at Drake station Wednesday evening, bringing with him the plat of a new station which the Sioux City railroad officials have concluded to locate on the old Hovey farm. The engineers will arrive at Drake Thursday evening, July 17, to stake

out the town plat. This will, indeed, be a benefit to the citizens of our township in the way of raising the valuation of adjoining lands, and will be a help to the county generally."—Correspondence in Rock County Herald, July 18, 1884.



SCENES AT MAGNOLIA

abandonment of all private and railroad interests at Drake station. The grain warehouse was moved to the newer Drake (as it was known for awhile), and in October Ira Crosby moved his store building. There was one building on the townsite selected, a building that had been there for many years prior to the more recent activities. That was the residence of George Phinney, who had taken as a homestead the land on section 11, Magnolia township, which was included in the townsite. At the close of the year 1885 a correspondent reported two elevators, a depot and a store in the new town. The Peavey company put up the second grain house.

Every indication for healthy growth was evident in 1886. The postoffice, which succeeded the old Westside office, was established in February with Ira E. Crosby, the pioneer merchant, as postmaster.²³ A third grain warehouse was erected in the spring by Jones Bros., of Adrian, and in the same season the railroad company established stock yards on its property. On May 2 an order was issued by the railroad authorities which officially changed the name of the station from Drake to Magnolia.²⁴ M. T. Hough established a blacksmith shop in May, and during the year residences were erected by P. Phinney, M. Pickett, J. Bill and C. E. Rolph. Early in 1887, O. R. Brooks, grain buyer for the Peavey company, engaged in the fuel and flour business, and in May A. J. Bonnett opened the town's second general store. Beyond that the town experienced no growth for several years, or

until the awakening which the early nineties held in store.

The new order of things in the history of Magnolia dates from the fall of 1891, when the platting of the town became an actuality. The townsite was still in the possession of Ex-Gov. Yale, and it was by him, with the co-operation of Frank A. Johnston, that this important action was taken. The survey was made in October by W. N. Davidson, and on the 19th of that month the plat was filed for record in the office of the register of deeds. The original townsite was made to consist of nine blocks and four outlots. The streets running north and south were named Garfield, Broadway, Washington and Lincoln, and they were intersected by Lucerne, State and Main.²⁵

Within two weeks after the plat was recorded, Gov. Yale had sold ten lots in the new town, more were sold a little later, and the promoters predicted a lively boom during the season of 1892. And they were not altogether disappointed in their hope. One of the first men to become interested in the promotion of the town and to lay plans for its future was Capt. E. H. Holbert, of Luverne. He became the owner of the townsite and at once started Magnolia's career of improvement. The Randall-Holbert Lumber company had a branch yard, managed by Ezra Hartwell, in full operation by the opening of spring, and a blacksmith shop was opened about the same time by Teller & Johnson. Capt. E. H. Holbert, in company with W. H. Randall and W. A. Douglas, under the firm name of W. A. Douglas &

²³Succeeding postmasters of Magnolia with dates of service have been: A. V. Lyle, December, 1890, to July, 1891; M. J. Phinney, July, 1891, to March, 1894; A. J. Bonnett, March, 1894, to March, 1898; M. Pickett, March, 1898, to 1911. One rural route, established in June, 1907, is in operation.

²⁴The town was named from the township in which it is located. The township was named Magnolia at the time of its organization, November 27, 1872. The name was selected by

Philo Hawes, after his old home in Rock county, Wisconsin. That place was named directly or indirectly for Pierre Magnol, in whose honor the Magnolia tree was named.

²⁵Two additions to Magnolia have been plat-
ted, as follows:

Kleine's, by William Kleine, July 11, 1894; surveyed by W. N. Davidson.

Gutzler's, by Harriet Gutzler, May 1, 1899; surveyed by W. N. Davidson.

Co., erected a store building, in which a well stocked general merchandise store was in full operation by May 1, making the second general store in the town. During the summer of 1892 a hotel and livery barn were built by John Carlson. A church was erected by public subscription and dwelling houses sprung up in all parts of the village. The total improvements for the year approximated \$13,000. Itemized they were as follows:²⁶

W. A. Douglas & Co., store building	\$1500
Church	1300
John Carlson, hotel	1200
W. A. Douglas, residence	1000
C. E. Rolph, residence	800
Joseph Miller, residence	800
Ezra Pockett, residence	800
Fred Pinchers, residence	700
Ed. Teller, residence	500
Chris. Johnson, residence	500
W. H. Randall & Co., lumber shed and office	500
I. E. Crosby, residence	500
W. M. Pickett, addition to residence	450
Ezra Hartwell, barn	400
A. Bonnett, addition to store	400
Mrs. E. Knowlton, residence	350
Teller & Johnson, blacksmith shop	300
F. G. Domrese, addition to residence	300
I. M. Cady, residence	300
C. L. Premo, barn	100

Total\$12,700

Progress continued during the next several years. Frederick Baker established a meat market in Magnolia in 1893 and was the first business man to locate on Broadway, the street upon which the business interests of the town have since centered. In March of that year Magnolia boasted of a local newspaper, the *Citizen*, which in July was succeeded by the *Advance*, a publication which has since maintained a continuous existence. Several other new business enterprises were born, and among the building improve-

ments of the year were a \$2000 school house and the Farmers elevator.

Magnolia became an incorporated municipality in the fall of 1894. A census taken in July showed that there was a population within the limits of the proposed municipality that would allow its incorporation. At a meeting of the county commissioners on July 20, a petition asking for the incorporation of the village of Magnolia was received with favor by that body. It made provision for holding a special election on September 4 at the office of the Magnolia Mercantile company to ballot on the question of creating a municipality, and named M. J. Phinney, A. J. Calkins and John Carlson inspectors to conduct the election.

The proposition was carried by a majority of four votes, there being twenty cast in favor of the project and sixteen against. The election to select the first officers under the new government was set for October 2. Following is the result of the first and subsequent elections held in the village:²⁷

1894—President, L. E. Woodruff; trustees, P. Phinney, E. L. Hartwell, G. W. Gleason; recorder, F. A. Baker; treasurer, A. J. Calkins; justices, A. Walker, John Carlson; constables, S. Pickett, C. Johnson.

1895—President, L. E. Woodruff; trustees, A. Walker, C. E. Kleine, J. K. Wiegel; recorder, W. W. Pickett; treasurer, M. J. Phinney; justice, I. M. Cady; constable, F. G. Domrese.

1896—President, L. E. Woodruff; trustees, A. Walker, C. E. Kleine, J. K. Wiegel; recorder, G. W. Turner; treasurer, S. L. Long; justices, I. M. Cady, G. W. Turner; constable, John Carlson.

1897—President, L. E. Woodruff; trustees, C. E. Kleine, A. P. Prescott, Joseph Mueller; recorder, G. W. Turner; treasurer, Frank Ferguson; justice, P. Phinney; constable, F. G. Domrese.

and public spirited gentleman, who always succeeds in whatever he undertakes, set out last spring to build the place and make a town of it. Since the 22nd of last April Capt. Holbert has sold forty-two lots in Magnolia."

²⁶In reviewing the events of the year 1892 in Magnolia the Rock County Herald referred to the active part played in the development of the town by Capt. Holbert. It said: "The record of building operations in Magnolia this season makes an excellent showing. Although Magnolia has been a railroad station for a good many years, very little building has been done in the place until the present year. Very fortunately for Magnolia, the town plat came into the possession of Capt. E. H. Holbert about a year ago, and this enterprising, energetic

²⁷At only a few of the annual village elections in Magnolia has the question of issuing licenses been submitted to the voters. At each of the three elections so held the victory has been for high license, in 1896 by a vote of 31 to 19, in 1899, 21 to 11, and in 1907, 35 to 9.

1898—President, L. E. Woodruff; trustees, C. E. Kleine, Will Soutar, M. Pickett; recorder, G. W. Turner; treasurer, Frank Ferguson; justice, I. M. Cady; constable, W. W. Pickett.

1899—President, L. E. Woodruff; trustees, C. E. Kleine, Will Soutar, M. Pickett; recorder, G. W. Turner; treasurer, M. J. Phinney; justice, E. Pokett; constables, R. B. Pickett, W. H. Baker.

1900—President, L. E. Woodruff; trustees, C. E. Kleine, M. Pickett, A. Walker; recorder, G. W. Turner; treasurer, M. J. Phinney; justice, N. A. Christianson; constable, W. F. McGee.

1901—President, M. Pickett; trustees, A. Walker, H. Dickey, M. J. Sheeran; recorder, G. W. Turner; treasurer, M. J. Phinney; justice, I. M. Cady; constable, W. T. Dean.

1902—President, L. E. Woodruff; trustees, A. Walker, H. Dickey, J. Miller; recorder, G. W. Turner; treasurer, M. J. Phinney; justice, Calvin Ott; constable, M. J. Ellsworth.

1903—President, A. Walker; trustees, J. Miller, John McLeish, H. Dickey; recorder, G. W. Turner; treasurer, W. V. Kennedy; constable, M. J. Ellsworth.

1904—President, A. Walker; trustees, John McLeish, H. Dickey, J. K. Wiegel; recorder, G. W. Turner; treasurer, W. V. Kennedy; constable, F. G. Domrese.

1905—President, A. Walker; trustees, John McLeish, H. Dickey, J. K. Wiegel; recorder, W. Innes; treasurer, Alex. Brown; justice, I. M. Cady; constable, W. T. Dean.

1906—President, A. Walker; trustees, John McLeish, H. Dickey, A. Bird; recorder, W. Innes; treasurer, Alex. Brown; justice, I. M. Cady; constables, George Trowbridge, E. Pokett.

1907—President, A. Walker; trustees, John McLeish, E. L. Hartwell, G. W. Turner; recorder, R. H. Adams; treasurer, Alex. Brown; constable, H. M. Rider.

1908—President, John McLeish; trustees, A. Bird, E. L. Hartwell, H. M. Rider; recorder, R. H. Adams; treasurer, Alex. Brown; constable, D. M. Hileman.

1909—President, John McLeish; trustees, A. Walker, R. H. Adams, F. A. Baker; recorder, I. M. Cady; treasurer, Alex. Brown; justice, I. M. Cady; constable, F. G. Domrese.

1910—President, A. Walker; trustees, R. H. Adams, John McLeish, F. A. Baker; recorder, I. M. Cady; treasurer, Alex. Brown; justice, I. L. Ackley; constable, Henry Wiegel.

1911—President, A. Walker; trustees, John McLeish, F. A. Baker, R. H. Adams; recorder, I. M. Cady; treasurer, Alex. Brown; justice, I. M. Cady; constable, T. G. Domrese.

Since incorporation Magnolia has advanced steadily and its growth has been of

a substantial nature. The first few years following the dawn of the new century were especially important ones. The building improvements for 1902 exceeded \$15,000, in which was included the one brick block in the town, the building occupied by the bank, an institution which came into existence the preceding year. The federal census taker of 1900 found 176 inhabitants in the village. An increase of 20, a total of 196, was revealed by the state enumeration of 1905. In 1910 the population was 189.

SCHOOL.

A completely equipped, nine grade school is maintained in Magnolia. It is conducted in a two-story building, erected in 1893 at a cost of several thousand dollars. Before that year the site was occupied by a small district school house, in which a school was established at a time when there was little prospect of Magnolia ever attaining proportions above that of a small railroad station. This original building, 16x24 feet in dimensions, was sold and made over into a business house. The first teacher to conduct school in the new building was Frank Ferguson.

CHURCH.

Magnolia's only church is styled the Holbert Methodist church of Magnolia. It was so named in honor of Capt. E. H. Holbert, who took the initial steps toward the erection of the church building in 1892. It was the original intention to use the building for a union church, but at the dedication it was taken over by the Methodist society, members of which were in a majority. The first board of trustees, elected in March, 1893, consisted of P. Phinney, D. Aney, George Ott, A. C. Crawford, W. W. Bullis, P. O. Goembel, E. H. Holbert, G. M. Henton and E. H.

Bronson. The church is now without a resident pastor.

LODGES.

The Modern Woodmen of America lodge and its auxiliary, the Royal Neighbors of America, maintain organizations in Magnolia. The Woodmen own their own hall, a two story frame building, erected in 1900.

Magnolia Camp No. 3911, M. W. A., was granted its charter of organization on May 21, 1896. The names of the nineteen charter members were F. E. Ayers, T. H. Bennett, William Britton, H. V. Bullis, A. C. Crawford, W. E. Dunbar, C. Jorgenson, W. F. Kleine, C. P. Leonard, G. A. Lohr, John McGee, J. S. Olson, Charles Pickett, A. P. Prescott, W. Souitar, A. K. Turner, D. W. Turner, G. W. Turner, Alexander Walker.

Marguerite Lodge No. 1332, R. N. A., was instituted January 25, 1899, with the following list of first members: Dora

Dunn, Hattie V. Kleine, Alexander Walker, F. A. Baker, Mary G. Knowlton, Lena M. Kleine, Anna Carlson, G. W. Turner, Hattie B. Baker, Martha A. Crawford, Clara Nordene, Eva C. Ferguson, Elizabeth Tepler, Anna Bonnett, Ella A. Rolph, Nora B. Turner, Annie Knowlton, Emma Bethel, Caroline Ekman, Nellie Knowlton, W. F. Kleine.

BANK.

The one banking house in Magnolia, the Magnolia State Bank, has been in operation since October, 1901. It was organized at that time with a capital stock of \$15,000, with Charles Mylius, W. R. Mansel, Alexander Walker, Thomas R. Roach and Albert R. Brooks as the principal stockholders and W. V. Kennedy as cashier. R. H. Adams, the present cashier and active manager of the institution, succeeded to the position of Mr. Kennedy in January, 1905.

CHAPTER XIII.

KENNETH, STEEN, ASHCREEK, BRUCE, KANARANZI, ETC.

KENNETH.

LOCATED on the line between sections 1 and 2, Vienna township, on the Worthington-Hardwick branch of the Rock Island railroad, seven miles southeast from Hardwick, is Kenneth, the youngest of Rock county's towns. Although it was the last to come into existence, it has outdistanced some of the other villages, and today is the largest of the county's unincorporated towns. Since its founding, Kenneth has been distinguished as a leading grain market and derives its support from a rich farming section. It is well supplied with the various business enterprises that go to make a prosperous country community.

Kenneth came into being as a direct result of the building of the Burlington road extension from Worthington to Hardwick, during the year 1899-1900, and was one of the four towns, three of which were located in Nobles county, that were created by this agency a decade ago. Plans for the new town of Kenneth were in the making for several months before the rails were laid to the proposed location. The track-layers reached Lismore, the

nearest station on the east, June 9, 1900, and from that point continued their way westward into Rock county, passing through the Kenneth townsite during the month of July and reaching the terminus at Hardwick on the 4th day of August.

Before the spring of 1900 opened, negotiations were under way by T. H. Brown & Co., the townsite company connected with the Burlington road, for the purchase of a desirable site for the new town it had been decided to establish in Vienna township. The deal was finally closed in April for the promoters by their agent, J. A. Kennicott, resulted in the transfer of twenty acres on sections 1 and 2. It was decided at that time to name the town Kenneth, for the eldest son of Mr. Kennicott, in recognition of that gentleman's efforts in the company's behalf.¹

The townsite was surveyed by County Surveyor W. N. Davidson, the dedication was made by Thomas H. Brown July 20, 1900, and the papers filed for record ten days later, on July 30. The plat created from this survey formed the town into four blocks. The streets running east

¹"The new town on the Burlington extension has at last been definitely located. The site chosen is twenty acres on the farms of Nelson & Wold, A. B. Turner, Eric Engebretson and Ben Hoven, on the line between sections 1 and 2 in Vienna township. About five acres is taken respectively from the northwest and southwest quarters of section 1 and the north-

east and southeast quarters of section 2. The new town has been named Kenneth, in honor of the son of Jay A. Kennicott. Mr. Kennicott owns a section farm half a mile south of the new town and has been instrumental in securing the location of the town."—Rock County Herald, April 20, 1900.

and west were named First, Second and Third, and were intersected by First Avenue west, Main avenue and First avenue east. A second plat of Kenneth was surveyed by W. N. Davidson for Andrew Messner¹ on April 2, 1902. This survey was filed for record in May, 1902. No additions to the original townsite have been platted.

Simultaneous with the arrival of the connecting iron band to the undeveloped townsite of Kenneth, during the latter part of July, 1900, building operations were commenced and the town assured of a reality. Before the month of August had passed three elevators had been completed and were prepared to handle the season's business. The three grain firms initially represented were Bemis & Howard, Ryan & Berg and E. A. Brown.

Although the greater part of the year 1900 was over before activity in the promotion of the new town was commenced, it saw the establishment of a number of enterprises. Early in October James A. Palmer opened his saloon. The pioneer merchant and first postmaster was J. L. Hogan. He was not long to have an unopposed field in the general merchandise business, for during the winter A. D. Parker became a resident of Kenneth and established a second general store. Mr. Parker at once erected a building, 60x22 feet in size, to house his business. About the same time the firm of Trotter & Trotter, hardware dealers, commenced business. The St. Croix Lumber company, during the same season, established a branch yard in Kenneth and installed Frank Underwood as agent. The depot was also erected in 1900, and James Costello became the first station agent.

The year 1901 was one of substantial

improvement. The town's first blacksmith, E. M. Newell, came from Edgerton in February, erected a shop and was ready to serve his patrons by the twentieth of the month. Thomte & Johnson were on the ground in March and commenced the erection of a livery barn. In the course of the next month the same firm² saw a hotel building, a two story structure, 24x50 feet in size, well under way. The hostelry was opened the second week in May. The first sidewalk in the town was constructed early in April. Another business enterprise was added to the village during the same month by Walter Bemis, one of the grain buyers, who engaged in the farm implement business in connection with his other interests. The first dwelling house in the village was brought to completion early in May and was occupied by Section Forman Solen. This was only the beginning of other improvements of the same nature that were consummated during the course of the year.

A visitor to Kenneth, writing in the Rock County Herald of May 3, 1901, pictures the condition of the flourishing hamlet at that date:

Unostentatiously, but none the less surely, a new town, small but enterprising, has grown up in Rock county and gives promise of many good things in the future—greater growth, population, business and importance. One year ago Kenneth, Minnesota, had no existence, today it is a bustling burg with every equipment for transformation into a city. Peopled by enterprising, thrifty and progressive citizens, its business enterprises in the hands of public spirited and far-sighted men, and surrounded by a rich and productive agricultural country, Kenneth enters the list of Rock county towns with every promise of growth and prosperity. Where one year ago was but a fertile field are now two well stocked general merchandise stores, a hardware store, a commodious hotel, a lumber yard, a black-

¹Mr. Messner purchased the Kenneth townsite from its original owners in June, 1901, and was responsible for its later development.

²Herman Thomte and Ole Johnson, who in partnership established the Kenneth hotel and livery barn during the spring of 1901, disposed of their interests to E. J. McMullan, of Iowa, in November of the same year.



SCENES AT KENNETH

smith shop, three elevators, livery stable, restaurant, two dray lines, a farm machinery and implement business—all housed in handsome and substantial buildings.

There was a marked and steady growth throughout the whole of 1901. The population of the village had reached a point where the erection of a commodious two-story school building became advisable and the building was completed late in the year. The business interests of the young town continued to prosper, and a number of enterprises were added. Among these was a bank, an institution much desired. The bank opened for business July 1 in the A. D. Parker building, with Mr. Parker in charge. In September the town was supplied with a physician. Dr. Van Krevelen, formerly of Holland, moved to Kenneth and opened a drug store which he conducted in connection with his practice. A number of new business buildings were brought to completion during the season of 1901.

The question of the incorporation of Kenneth became an issue in 1902. The substantial and increasing growth of the town, together with the splendid material advancement that it had been privileged to enjoy during the short time of its existence, seemed in the eyes of the town's business men to justify the desire to assume the privileges and obligations of local self government. Several obstacles confronted the promoters of the plan for incorporating. It was found necessary to extend the bounds of the proposed corporation for a number of miles in each direction from the village in order to secure the population required by law before any village is entitled to form itself into an independent municipality. There was considerable opposition to the scheme, especially by many farmers whose lands it was proposed to include within the corporation. A petition signed by A. D. Parker and thirty-seven others,

asking for the incorporation of Kenneth, was presented to the board of county commissioners and was considered by that body at its regular meeting on December 19, 1902. A petition of remonstrance signed by B. Halverson and seventeen others was submitted to the commissioners on the same occasion, and the matter was brought to a focus. Both sides to the controversy were represented by authorized representatives and arguments for and against incorporation were made. The board ordered that the petition be referred to the county attorney for his opinion as to its legality, especially in regard to the quantity of territory which had been included.

The matter was brought to a conclusion at the meeting of the commissioners on January 8, 1903, when a request signed by twelve of those interested in the proposed incorporation, asking for a withdrawal of their original petition, was presented. Although no later attempt has been made to bring about the incorporation of Kenneth, there is every reason to believe that in the near future the town in Vienna township will be in a condition to successfully inaugurate such a movement.

Kenneth's growth has been slow but substantial. It experienced a setback during the years 1903 and 1904 because of the destruction, by hail and rains, to the crops in that section which finds its market in Kenneth. Since that time, however, the town has maintained its own and is still unsurpassed as a grain market and trading point.

Kenneth's school history began almost with the founding of the town. In April, 1901, a petition asking for the creation of a new school district to include the town of Kenneth was favorably acted upon by the board of county commissioners. Following this action, on May 2, a meeting of the citizens of Kenneth was held and

the organization of the district perfected. B. Halverson was elected director, J. L. Hogan, clerk, and George Watson, treasurer. At a meeting held later in the same month it was voted to raise \$2500 for the erection of a school building. The edifice, two stories in height, 28x40 feet, was erected by Hackett & Robinson, of Luverne, and was completed in time for the opening of the winter term on December 6, 1901. School opened on that date with Nellie Morse as teacher and with an enrollment of thirty-two pupils.

Two church organizations are maintained in Kenneth, the Catholic and Evangelical Lutheran, and both possess church edifices. The Catholic church building, which formerly occupied a site in Lismore township, Nobles county, was moved to Kenneth early in 1903. The Evangelical Lutheran church was erected during the season of 1907.

The Kenneth State Bank is an outgrowth of a private institution which began business July 1, 1901, as the bank of Kenneth, with R. B. Hinkly, president, and A. D. Parker, cashier. The bank erected a building of its own during the summer of 1903. The Kenneth State Bank, following the reorganization, commenced business July 10, 1907, with capital stock of \$12,000. The incorporators were Andrew Messner, A. D. Parker, John Engebretson, John Wonderle, L. W. Johnson, Chris. Haiback, B. Halverson, Kittil Olson and L. Kreun. The first officers and board of directors consisted of Andrew Messner, president; B. Halverson, vice president; A. D. Parker, cashier; John Engebretson, assistant cashier; Chris Haiback.

*At the time application was made for a postoffice at this point, in 1888, the name asked for by the petitioners was Virginia. This request the postmaster general would not grant because a postoffice previously established on the Iron Range in the northern part of the state bore that name. It was then decided to name the postoffice Steen. The station located by the Illinois Central, however, was designated

STEEN.

In the list of Rock county's unincorporated villages Steen ranks among the foremost, both in size and importance. It is located on the northwest quarter of section 32, Clinton township, near the southern boundary of the county, and is a station on the line of the Illinois Central railroad connecting Sioux Falls with Chicago. Steen makes no pretense of metropolitan greatness but is content with being a prosperous and substantially built hamlet, surrounded by a rich farming country. Several lines of business are represented, including a bank, general store, hardware store, drug store, furniture store, hotel, blacksmith shop, harness shop, pool hall, lumber yard, two elevators, livery barn, fuel dealer and stock buyers. The town also has a town hall, two churches and a first grade public school, employing two teachers.

The land on which the town of Steen is located was taken as a homestead in 1871 by John P. Steen. A brother, Ole P. Steen, filed a homestead claim to the quarter section adjoining the year before, and it was in honor of these two pioneers that the village was given its permanent name.⁴

The last few years of the eighties witnessed the founding of three towns in southern Rock county as a direct result of the construction of two new lines of railroad, the Illinois Central and the Sioux City & Northern. Included in this number was Steen, or Virginia, as it was originally known, on the Illinois Central, which commenced laying rails on the extension from Rock Rapids to Sioux Falls

as Virginia and was known as such for a number of years. The name of the station was then made to agree with that of the postoffice. The last mention of the town as Virginia in the local press was made in the summer of 1893. In July of that year reference was made to the town of Steen, and Virginia, Rock county, became an incident of history.



SCENES AT STEEN

in September, 1887. The station of Bruce, seven miles to the west in Martin township, was the first of these to be located, the site being selected in December.

Early in the year 1888 the Illinois Central authorities announced their intention to plat and develop a town on the line between Bruce and Rock Rapids, in Clinton township. A number of the residents of that precinct at once became interested in the project and lent their assistance in its furtherance. It was the offer of John P. Steen to donate twenty acres of his homestead for townsite purposes that influenced the railroad company to locate the proposed station on his land.

The track-laying on the extension was completed so as to permit the operation of the first passenger train on June 2, 1888. In the course of the same month the townsite of Virginia was surveyed by J. F. Whalen. The plat, made to comprise thirteen blocks, was dedicated on June 13 by N. T. Burroughs, president, and W. A. Sanford, secretary, of the Cherokee & Western Town Lot & Land company, and it was placed on record September 3.

The farm house of John P. Steen was the only building on the Virginia townsite prior to the activities of the railroad company at that point. No sooner had the survey been completed than work was commenced on a depot building and a flat grain warehouse, and before the summer of 1888 was over there were signs of a promising village.⁵ Two grain warehouses, one erected by John Butler, and the other by E. M. Dickey, had been established, and the pioneer merchant, C. C. Clemetson was actively engaged in business. A petition signed by residents in the vicinity

of the new town asking for the establishment of a postoffice was granted, and before the year had closed an office was being operated in the store with Mr. Clemetson as postmaster.⁶

For several years following its founding Virginia was at a standstill so far as any material growth was concerned. It proved its advantage as a grain market from the start, but it was not until the early nineties that development along broader lines commenced. Among the early business enterprises was a lumber yard established by J. H. Zenker in March, 1890. The town experienced the most pronounced era of progress in building operations and expansion during the period which included the years 1891 to 1894. Early in 1891 the pioneer store was taken over by the firm of Miller & Roan, formerly of Rock Rapids. A second general store was established later in the same year by Hensing & Thorstad.⁷ C. C. Berge was the first hardware merchant. The E. M. Dickey Co., which established the first grain warehouse in the year of founding, was the first to erect an elevator, which was done during the summer of 1892. The year 1893 was an especially active one and witnessed a number of substantial building and business improvements.

In 1895 a town hall was built by a stock company organized by the citizens of Steen. A business directory compiled in July of that year contained the names of the following men: George J. Roan, general store; W. E. Bauer, general store; C. Clemetson, billiard and pool hall; T. L. Peyer, harness shop; George Heath, blacksmith; O. A. Helgeson, livery and feed barn; C. Brant, manager Edmonds Co. elevator; Dickey & Co., elevator; J. H.

⁵"Virginia, the new town in Clinton township, on the line of the Illinois Central, is getting to the front. It has two warehouses, a depot and a store."—Rock County Herald, September 14, 1888.

⁶"Steen has been served by five postmasters since the office was established. Those who

have succeeded Mr. Clemetson, in the order of their succession, are J. P. Steen, George J. Roan, C. H. Peterson and Chris Clemetson.

⁷"This partnership did not exist long. E. J. Thorstad, the junior partner, became sole proprietor in October, 1891.

Zenker, lumber and fuel; C. C. Berge, hardware; G. N. Graves, agent Illinois Central railroad; C. H. Peterson, postmaster.

On February 24, 1900, Steen was visited by a fire which consumed the two elevators of the town and destroyed 20,000 bushels of grain contained therein. For a time the depot building was threatened with destruction, but the energetic work of the citizens prevented further spread of the conflagration. Both of the elevators were rebuilt.

In late years Steen has enjoyed with others of her sister villages the prosperous times that have been incident to Rock county's marvelous agricultural development.

One of the finest little school houses in the county is found at Steen. It was erected in 1905 and was occupied for the first time at the beginning of the September term. This building replaced a former one, erected in the days of the town's infancy.

There are two church organizations that maintain houses of worship in Steen—the German Evangelical and German Lutheran. The Lutheran church was organized in the summer of 1890 with sixteen charter members by Rev. Theodore Maesse, of Fulda. The present church edifice, the first in the village, was erected in 1895 at a cost of \$1800 and was dedicated on October 20 of that year. Rev. H. W. Baumann, of Luverne, is the present pastor.

ASHCREEK.

The little village of Ashcreek, the first station south of Luverne on the Doon extension of the Omaha railway, is one of the two Rock county hamlets in Clinton township. The platted town is on section 23 of that precinct. Though it has never assumed proportions that would warrant

its being set off as an independent municipality, Ashcreek for many years has justified its existence as a trading point and grain market for a rich farming community.

The building of the Doon branch and the subsequent location of a station on section 23, Clinton, were conditions undreamed of when Ashcreek was first placed on the map as a country postoffice, the second postoffice established in the county. The southern part of Rock county, especially Clinton and Martin townships, was an early field for settlement. By the summer of 1871 the population of these two precincts exceeded that of all the rest of the county, and a demand was made for better postoffice facilities. The only office in the county at that time was located at Luverne, and the trip to that point was much of an undertaking for a majority of the settlers living in southern Rock county in the days when ox teams were practically the only mode of conveyance.

The agitation for a second postoffice bore immediate fruit. Out of several applicants for the position of postmaster, Mrs. L. B. Kniss was chosen and the office was established on the George W. Kniss homestead, one half mile distant from the future Ashcreek station. The office was named for the creek flowing near by. To members of the pioneer Estey family was given the naming of this stream. The incident of the christening, which occurred on Christmas day, 1867, has been told in Colin J. Estey's own words:

In the forenoon Byron and I went to tend our traps. He had one set for a fox near where Saint's Rest now stands, and on that day he caught a coyote. Byron was about eight years old then. As we went out to look at the traps we crossed Rock river at a point about where M. C. Smith's ford was eventually located and followed up what is now known as Ash creek. Byron, boy-fashion, asked the name of the creek, and I told him it had no name and that he might name it. He looked the surroundings over carefully and said: "Well, there is a

lot of small ash growing at the mouth, so I guess we will have to call it Ash creek." Next summer when the government surveyors were sectionizing Rock county we gave the name in to them and the stream has been so called ever since.

The Ashcreek postoffice was located on the mail route connecting Luverne with Doon and LeMars, Iowa, which was first operated by Sam Bellesfield. Mrs. Kniss continued in charge of the office until 1873,* when she removed from the locality and was succeeded as postmistress by Mrs. Susan M. Brown, who held the office seven years.

So, Ashcreek, which nominally came into being in the early seventies, advanced no further than the country postoffice stage until about a dozen years later. Then it was through the agency of the railroad that it was enabled to assume a more pretentious air.

The branch road from Luverne to Doon was built in 1879, the first trains being operated in November. The rudiment of a station was established on what then was the Kniss & Brown farm, on section 23, Clinton, which was to develop gradually, but with a certainty, into the village of Ashcreek. The initial improvement in the town-to-be, and the only one recorded for the year 1879, was a small grain warehouse erected by Truax & Co. This firm had extensive farming interests in the immediate vicinity, and the warehouse erected was solely for the purpose of taking care of the products of its own farms.

In the fall of 1880 a side track was constructed, and a correspondent predicted

that Ashcreek was about to shape itself into a metropolis. The extent of the subsequent building operations, however, was the erection of a second grain warehouse, 16x30 feet in size, put by E. A. Brown, who at that time commenced his successful career as a Rock county grain merchant. A box car was placed at the new station to answer the purposes of a depot building.

An event of the year 1882 promised great things for the embryo town. This was the sale of the Kniss & Brown farm, upon which the station was located, to Col. Alfred Grey, an English capitalist and a large owner of real estate in this section of the state and Iowa. Col. Grey proposed to build a flourishing town at Ashcreek, to be the headquarters for his various interests, much after the English baronial system. A year elapsed before the promoter commenced the execution of his plan. A survey of a townsite was completed in August, 1883, by James P. Gilman, and the dedication of the site was made September 6, 1883, by James B. Close, Col. Grey's agent. The plat included eight blocks. The owner was fully honored in the names bestowed upon the streets running east and west, which were Colonel, Grey and Alfred. The intersecting streets were designated as First, Second and Third.⁹

Coincident with the platting, three dwellings, each a two-story structure covering a ground space of 24x36 feet, and three barns were built by Col. Grey for the accommodation of the employes on his nearby farms. There was persistent talk of

*Mrs. Kniss has given some interesting statistics relating to this early day postoffice:

"Our local paper was then the Jackson Republic, as those who wished to prove up on their claims had to go to Jackson, the nearest land office, and so their names and their witnesses were published in the paper. A paper was also printed at Rock Rapids. There were six subscribers to the paper and nine to the Jackson Republic. The total number of regular subscription papers was twenty-three, and one magazine was taken by a patron of the office, although a great many were sent by friends in the east.

"The receipts for stamps sold during the quarter ending September, 1872, were \$6.47, and that was when postage on a letter amounted to three cents. Notwithstanding the fact that the postmistress was expected to be at home any time a patron should happen to call, the department paid the munificent sum of \$12.00 a year for services rendered."

⁹One addition to Ashcreek has been platted: Kitterman's, by Benjamin T. Kitterman and William Lemka, December 12, 1896; surveyed by J. P. Gilman.

a store on the site, but it remained for other than the Grey interests to supply the want. J. T. Woodrow, whose store was completed in October, 1884, was the first merchant and for a number of years the only one in Ashcreek. The Ashcreek post-office was moved to the new store and Mr. Woodrow commissioned postmaster.

There was some progress during the half dozen years following the opening of the pioneer store. In 1885 the railroad company established stockyards at Ashcreek, and one year later erected a serviceable depot. Early in 1886 the believers in Ashcreek's future greatness became convinced that the dawn of a new era was at hand because of the proposed building of the Burlington railroad to Sioux Falls from Ellsworth. At an enthusiastic meeting held February 20, plans to induce the new railroad to change its route so as to pass through Ashcreek were considered. It was proposed to offer \$15,000 as a bonus to secure this change of route, but the attempt to make of Ashcreek a railroad center came to naught.

The Congregational church society, organized in the spring of 1889, erected a neat church edifice in the village the same year. The church, built at a cost of \$1100, was dedicated Sunday, February 9, 1890. Rev. William Fitch was the pastor at the time.

L. S. Welker succeeded to the business of J. T. Woodrow in the summer of 1888. A grist mill was established by C. A. Delamater in January, 1890, but it continued in operation only a few months. The Ashcreek farm of 894 acres was sold by Col. Grey in 1891 to Ezra Rice and James H. Gray, and this transfer was the commencement of better days for the humble village. The new owners were men in-

tensely interested in the advancement of Rock county. Progress commenced at once. In September, 1891, J. T. Fort, a blacksmith, located in the town, and E. A. Brown erected a second elevator. The year following E. C. Palmer came from Sioux City and established a new store and lumber yard.

Ashcreek in more recent years has been added to gradually, and at no particular period has experienced a boom or unnatural condition to force the extension of its limits. A creditable school building was erected in 1903. A public hall is maintained, and in the village are to be found residences that would do credit to a more pretentious community.

BRUCE.

On section 30, Martin township, two miles west of Hills, is located the Illinois Central station of Bruce. In addition to the depot the business houses of the unpretentious hamlet are confined to a general store and two elevators. Bruce has known better days. At the time of its founding it gave promise of eventually taking high rank among the communities of Rock county. Its season of glory was short lived, however, and it was forced to bow to the stern decree of fate while yet an infant.

The first intimation of a Rock county town on the Martin township prairies was received in November, 1887, when the Illinois Central authorities, whose railroad had just made entry into the county, located a station on J. H. Helgeson's farm, on section 30.¹⁰⁰ Before December was over the company had built a side track on the site of the town-to-be, which it proposed to name Martin. The station bore that appellation only a few months, and

¹⁰⁰"A new station has been located by the Illinois Central company on J. H. Helgeson's farm on section 30, Martin township. Mr. Helgeson has sold 100 acres to the company, for the purposes of the townsite, for \$2200, and

the company has secured twenty acres adjoining from Ole Rund and J. Nerison."—Correspondence in Rock County Herald, December 2, 1887.

then was christened Bruce, in honor of one of the chief officials of the Illinois Central.

Unlike some of Rock county's towns, there was no long lapse of time before it responded to the hopes of its sponsors. Activity began with a rush in Bruce during the first year of its existence, which was also the one of its fullest development. The survey of the townsite was made in May, 1888, by J. F. Whalen. The plat, indicative of the expectation of the promoters, was made to include sixteen blocks. The dedication by John Butler and Charles E. Moore took place May 22 and the day following record was made in the office of the register of deeds.¹¹

The boom commenced at once. Hickey & Co. were the first on the ground and built a grain warehouse. The depot was erected about the same time, in the month of June, and G. B. Hartley was installed as the first agent. John Butler, one of the owners of the townsite, was especially active in the promotion of building operations. During the summer he erected a hotel, which was first conducted by M. McCarthy and later in the same year by Andrew Nelson; a store building, in which the first merchants, Fransen & Miller, were located; and a second warehouse, with a capacity of 30,000 bushels of grain. A second general store was established by Jacobson & Sexe before the year was over, as was also a blacksmith shop by Ole Lund. During the summer an attempt was made by George Bollinger to conduct a saloon in Bruce. He was refused the necessary license by the county commissioners, but proceeded, nevertheless, in violation of

the law. This action led to his arrest and conviction in December.

The postoffice was established in the store of Jacobson & Sexe in 1888. J. N. Jacobson conducted the office as deputy until September, 1889, when he was regularly commissioned postmaster. Bruce progressed to a noticeable degree during the second year of life.

Early in the spring of 1890 the existence of Bruce was threatened, because of the founding of the town of Hills, two miles away at the intersection of the Illinois Central with the new Sioux City & Northern railroad. It became evident to the business men of Bruce that their interests were certain to suffer in competition with the rival favored by a more strategic location. In February the hotel closed its doors and March witnessed the removal across the fields of Bruce's leading business establishment, the Jacobson & Sexe store, as well as the blacksmith shop.¹² What few buildings remained in the once promising community of Bruce were deserted.

But Bruce refused to entirely forfeit its lease of life. There were a few signs of activity during 1890, but none of a nature that assured a regeneration. J. N. Jacobson, upon moving to Hills, resigned as postmaster of Bruce, and was succeeded in May by F. T. Miller. Mr. Miller laid plans for the opening of a general store but did not put them into execution. A store was established, however, by Hans N. Kjergaard. Postmaster Miller served only a few months in that capacity and withdrew in favor of Mr. Kjergaard, who has ever since held the office. For six months

¹¹"Bruce, the new station in Rock county, Minnesota, midway between Sioux Falls and Rock Rapids, has been platted and no doubt will be a town of two hundred souls before the leaves begin to fall."—Rock Rapids Reporter, May, 1888.

¹²"The little town of Bruce on the Sioux Falls branch of the Illinois Central, in Martin township, Rock county, is about depopulated on

account of its people moving, bag and baggage, over to Hills, the new town on the Northern named after the general manager of the road. Hills is about a mile and a half east of Bruce, and the only blacksmith shop, grain buying establishment and general store in Bruce have been moved to Hills. The postoffice will probably follow in short order."—Sioux City Journal, March, 1900.

during 1890 Bruce came into prominence as a wholesale center. Two liquor firms, Hickey & Mecklenmaier and the North Star Drug company, which were forced from South Dakota by prohibition laws, located for business at Bruce, the first town over the state line, but their career was run within a short period.

All later efforts to "boost" Bruce have ended in failure. During the spring of 1893, N. T. Burroughs, of Cherokee, Iowa, who was interested in the townsite, proposed to once more establish the place on a firm footing.¹³ But the hopes thus awakened never saw fulfillment. A year prior to this the two grain warehouses at Bruce became the property of Edmonds & Londergan, and were converted into elevators. Disaster visited Bruce on the morning of October 16, 1900, when fire destroyed the Illinois Central depot, which was later rebuilt on a smaller scale.

The town of Bruce is today virtually controlled by one man, Hans N. Kjer-gaard, who is postmaster, only merchant, proprietor of the two elevators, stock buyer and station agent. He was one of the few who refused to leave Bruce in the day of its crisis, and largely through his determination to stay, Bruce has maintained its place on the map.

KANARANZI.

Numbered among the half dozen smaller villages of Rock county is Kanaranzi, named after the township within which it is located. Stated specifically, it is situ-

ated on the southeast quarter of section 3, seven miles from the county seat on the Watertown-Ellsworth branch of the Rock Island railroad. The business town consists of a store, elevators and shops that derive their support from the agricultural country adjoining.

The building of the Burlington railroad into Rock county in 1884 brought with it the possibility of new towns, and among the places to materialize was the station in Kanaranzi township. The grading of the proposed line was hardly commenced before there were negotiations between the railroad authorities and representatives of the farmers and landowners of Kanaranzi township in regard to locating a town, which it was expected would satisfy a long felt want for a more convenient market.¹⁴

But a whole year was allowed to pass before the agitators' hopes were realized. In August, 1885, the townsite company connected with the railroad took action. A survey was made during that month by LeRoy Grant, from which a town plat of nine blocks was made. The dedication occurred September 28, 1885, and on October 14 the instrument was placed on record.¹⁵ The land on which the town was located was originally the property of Charles Thompson.

No sooner was the town-to-be laid out than activity in its promotion became evident. The first to build on the site was A. E. Patterson, who completed a grain warehouse about the first of September.

¹³"T. E. Shannon and T. E. Munger, officials of the Illinois Central railroad, and N. T. Burroughs, of Cherokee, were in town Tuesday on townsite business. Mr. Burroughs proposes to start Bruce up again and will make a first-class country town of it. Mr. Burroughs is a man of great wealth and he intends to offer every inducement he can to business enterprises which he can get started at this place, and there is no doubt that in a short time Bruce will be one of the best country towns in this section of the country. We will have three good general stores running within a month from now."—Correspondence in Rock County Herald, April 21, 1893.

¹⁴"The people here have not yet given up all hopes of obtaining a depot in Kanaranzi township. The distance from Luverne to some good location will be about ten or eleven miles, and the country around here will support a good town, as it will get much of the trade that now goes to Adrian and Rock Rapids. We believe the railroad company is working for its own interest, and, allowing this to be a fact, we see no reason why we should feel in doubt."—Correspondence in Rock County Herald, May 16, 1884.

¹⁵One addition has been attached to the original townsite of Kanaranzi: Kanaranzi Village Outlots, by G. S. Smoyer, December 27, 1904.

1885. Ezra Rice put up the second grain house later in the same month, which was opened for business with Thomas Ganfield in charge. The depot was also erected during the fall of 1885, but it was not until October 18, 1886, that the station was formally opened. G. T. Bandy, formerly of Cazenovia, was installed as agent. A number of residences covered the improvements of the latter year. Mr. Bandy became Kanaranzi's first postmaster, assuming charge at the opening of the office on January 28, 1887. As a result of the heavy wind storm on August 2, 1887, Kanaranzi was for a time with only one grain warehouse, the establishment of E. A. Brown, who had succeeded A. E. Patterson, suffering complete destruction. It was immediately rebuilt. In October, 1887, a correspondent boasted for the town two grain buyers, a newly established stock yard and a photographer.¹⁶

Kanaranzi was without a mercantile establishment for the first three years of its existence. The first store was opened by C. Northrup and E. Milne in a building they erected early in October, 1888. Several months later this firm sold to G. T. Bandy, the station agent, who during the season of 1889 also engaged in the lumber business. Mr. Bandy disposed of his interests in 1891 to Elias M. Blakeslee, who in June succeeded him as postmaster.

With the addition of a lumber yard, blacksmith shop and saloon late in the year 1892, Kanaranzi reached the high point in its development. The last two decades have changed but little the appearance of the village, but it has experienced all the healthful tendencies of improvement which a community of its size can exhibit. A substantial \$1200 school building was erected in the village in 1899.

MANLEY.

Manley, a village without a resident, is the least of all the points entitled to a place on the map of Rock county. Located on the southeast quarter of section 35, in the fraction of Beaver Creek township, at the intersection of the Omaha with the Great Northern railway, it is a has-been town. At present it is not even distinguished as a railroad station, despite its favorable location. Its sole enterprise is a grain elevator, conducted during a certain portion of the year.

Time was when Manley occupied a more prominent position in affairs. The Sioux City & Northern railroad (later to become a part of the Great Northern system) building through the county in 1889, simultaneously located two towns in Rock county, Hills and Manley (originally known as Hornick). Both were placed at intersections of the new line with roads already in operation. Of the two towns the greater hopes for future prominence were centered in Manley. The turn of events proved the contrary. At the time the railroad was laying its course through the county substantial inducements were offered by the residents of both Beaver Creek and Valley Springs to include their respective towns on the route. But instead of accepting such offers, the townsites promoters connected with the new road entertained visions of a small city at the junction of the Sioux City & Northern with the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha, a city that would reach out and absorb both Beaver Creek and Valley Springs.

A quarter section of land, for which was paid \$4000, was bought of E. M. Percival in September, to be laid out into the townsites of Hornick. The survey was

¹⁶"Who says our town is not having a boom? Let him who says so come and see the new stock yards. We also have two grain buyers. Mr. Mitchell represents E. A. Brown, of Ash-

creek, and Mr. Bandy represents E. Rice, of Luyerne. We also have a photographer here."

Correspondence in Rock County Herald, October 7, 1887.

made under the direction of L. K. Bowman. Ten blocks were included in the original plat, which was dedicated October 25, 1889, by E. W. Skinner, and recorded on November 7.¹⁷ The Sioux City & Northern erected a depot building early in November and laid out stock yards, and before the station was given a place on the company's time table, the name was changed from Hornick to Manley, in honor of W. P. Manley, who was cashier of the Security National Bank, of Sioux City, and one of the leading stockholders of the Sioux City & Northern company.

At this early stage of Manley's development an invitation was extended to both Beaver Creek and Valley Springs to join forces with the new town, before circumstances should force such a procedure.¹⁸ The boom that was expected to eventuate in 1890 did not materialize so fully as anticipated. In April an elevator was erected by C. N. Bell, of St. Paul, and F. C. Bell was placed in charge. After much bargaining, L. K. Lee was induced to build a roller mill at Manley. The enterprise was launched early in August. Late in July a postoffice was established and Miss Mary E. McCallen appointed postmistress. The office was housed in a small building erected for the purpose.

To encourage the development of the town the townsite owners extensively advertised and held an auction sale of town lots that resulted successfully so far as their pockets were concerned. The sale was held on July 30, 1890. For the oc-

casion a free excursion train was run from Sioux City, which carried prospective investors, the majority of whom were laboring men. It was reported that 588 persons were entertained by the company on the day of the sale and that seventy-five lots were sold.¹⁹ The many promises of building projects that were made before the wholesale disposal of lots were not fulfilled. The activities of the year 1890 from the first of August may be summarized: A small bottling works was put in operation; several small residences, one by E. M. Percival and another by Mr. Sturtevant, were erected; the first and only store in the town was established by H. H. Loeffler in December; the firm of Rood Bros. engaged in the fuel business and stock buying; an ice house with a storage capacity of 160 tons was completed by Albert Johnson in December.

There were a few additions to Manley in 1891. John Butler erected a 24x50 feet grain warehouse in time for the fall season, and in December a blacksmith and wagon maker located in the town. The Manley mill was closed in March, 1892, and from that time the decline of the junction city was rapid, while Beaver Creek and Valley Springs continued to prosper. In the course of the next few years every industry in the town, with the exception of the grain elevators, were withdrawn.

The store building and the few residences remained unoccupied for a period and were eventually moved away.²⁰ A fire on the morning of October 8, 1901, de-

¹⁷One addition was platted to Manley: First, by E. W. Skinner, July 30, 1890; surveyed by W. N. Davidson.

¹⁸"A representative of the Northern Land company, which owns the towns along the Sioux City & Northern railway, has been interviewing the merchants and residents of the towns of Beaver Creek and Valley Springs, with a view to induce the two towns to unite and form a thriving town at the junction of the Sioux City & Northern and Omaha railways." *Beaver Creek News-Letter*, November, 1889.

¹⁹"The sale of town lots at Manley last week is said to have been a big affair, the purchases aggregating about \$4000, at prices ranging from \$50 to \$150 a lot. The free excursion from Sioux City drew a big crowd."—*Rock Rapids Review*, August, 1890.

²⁰"Manley will soon be a has-been town. One by one the buildings of that place are being taken away. The last building to be removed, and about all that remains of Manley, will be the two story store building. The building was sold this week to A. N. Nerison, of Hills. The building will be removed to Hills and used

stroyed one of the two elevators, entailing a loss of \$2500. In 1904 the station was closed but was later opened for a period. No agent is maintained at Manley at the present time.

OTHER PLACES.

Warner is the name given to a grain station, three miles east of Luverne, on section 7, Magnolia township, on the Worthington-Mitchell branch of the Omaha railroad. It has never advanced beyond the condition originally intended. Late in July, 1877, a grain warehouse, 20x40 feet in dimensions, was erected at this point to house the products of the farms of Capt. Blakely and Messrs. Thompson and Seney, capitalists who controlled vast agricultural interests in Magnolia township at that early day. For a year this point was designated as Hill Siding, then came by its present name Warner, in honor of Eling F. Warner, one of the original directors of the Sioux City & St. Paul railroad. An elevator marks the site of Warner today. It was built in August, 1901, by the Hubbard & Palmer company.

During the eighties plans for a town at the foot of the Blue mounds, a short distance north of Luverne, were made. The quarrying industry had developed to quite an extent, and it was a scheme of J. F. Shoemaker, the head of the controlling company, to found a small town or colony, where the men employed in the quarries might establish convenient homes. The first activity toward this end was the construction of 2000 feet of side track to the proposed site in November, 1884. For a

time appearances led to the belief that the station the Burlington company had decided to locate in Rock county north of Luverne (Hardwick) was to lie at the foot of the mounds.²¹ In the spring of 1885 Mr. Shoemaker made preparations to plat a townsite,²² but the intention was never carried into effect. A station at Mound, established in June, was maintained for a short period, but no agent was located there. A few temporary dwelling houses were erected, but beyond that no improvements were ever made in the "town."

In the days of star mail routes it was the custom to maintain country postoffices at convenient points. There were a number of such in Rock county prior to the founding of villages and the establishment of rural mail routes, which carry daily mail to all parts of the country. With the modern methods of distributing the mail came the abandonment of country postoffices, and there is now none maintained in Rock county.

Denver was the name of one country postoffice. It was located at the residence of H. Goodale, on section 10, in the township of the same name. The office, established in February, 1885, with Mr. Goodale as postmaster, existed for a number of years. The Burlington railroad traversed section 10, and a "mail catcher" was put up at the most convenient point to the Denver postoffice in May, 1886, and thereafter mail was received at the office Monday and Friday mornings of each week.

Handy postoffice, located on the east line of Kanaranzi township, came into existence during the first decade of the

as a dwelling."—Valley Springs Vidette, March, 1900.

²¹"The delay in laying out the proposed townsite on section 26, Denver, coupled with the character of the work in progress at the mounds, has excited the suspicion that the town of Jasper [Hardwick], instead of being located at the point originally proposed, will be located at the foot of the mound."—Rock County Herald, October 31, 1884.

²²"J. F. Shoemaker has decided to plat a portion of his land in the vicinity of the quarries for the use of employes of the quarry company, and it is understood that a considerable number of residences will be built. The plat, however, will not be recorded, and none of the lots will be sold, as Mr. Shoemaker is determined that no saloons shall be established there."—Rock County Herald, March 20, 1885.

county's history. The first postmaster, Mr. Meris, was succeeded in December, 1877, by O. D. Bryan. The office was maintained several years.

A postoffice in Martin township, known as Martin, was established in June, 1876. John D. Tyler was the first postmaster. With the coming of railroads Martin postoffice was discontinued.

Clinton postoffice, in the township of that name, was established the same month as Martin and Nels Clemetson commissioned postmaster. In April, 1877, the name of the office was changed from Clin-

ton to Kongsberg. It was discontinued in November, 1884, and the mail formerly consigned to that office was sent to Ash-creek.

In eastern Rose Dell township was located Meadow postoffice, established in the early eighties. K. K. Steen was postmaster for many years.

Pleasant Valley postoffice had an existence of a few years in the late seventies. It was discontinued in December, 1880, and the patrons thereafter received their mail at Luverne.

CHAPTER XIV.

DESCRIPTIVE.

ROCK county picked its location in the extreme southwestern corner of Minnesota and chose well. Without detracting in the least from the reputations of the other excellent counties of Minnesota, let it be known that Rock county's farming lands, in point of fertility and topographical perfectness, are the best in the state; they are the masterpiece of the all-wise Creator's making. In fact, the undisputed claim has been made that Rock county is the richest agricultural county in the United States.¹

The county is bounded on the north by Pipestone county, on the east by Nobles county, on the south by Lyon county, Iowa, and on the west by Minnehaha county, South Dakota. Its geographical center is in latitude 43 degrees, 47 minutes and 30 seconds north, and it lies between meridians 96 and 97 west from Greenwich. Rock county is rectangular in form, twenty and one-eighth miles in width and twenty-four miles in length, north and south. It contains twelve congressional townships and a fractional strip of land two and one-eighth miles in width and twenty-four in length. Its area is 482.67 square miles, or 308,910.15 acres, of which

480.83 square miles, or 307,136.11 acres, are land, and only 1.84 square miles, or 1174.04 acres, are water.² Of the land area, with the exception of small tracts of waste lands on the mounds, every foot is tillable.

A glance at the map of Minnesota and the political division designated thereon as Rock county will furnish most of the information given above. But there will be found nothing to distinguish Rock county from the other divisions in the vicinity except the presence of many water-courses, indicating excellent possibilities for drainage. The lithographed piece of paper does not convey much idea of the country; personal inspection is required to learn what it really is.

In general the surface of Rock county is a high, broadly undulating plateau, though considerably diversified by streams, some of which have bluff shores and scanty growths of natural timber. The undulations of the prairie are gradual, in no places being sufficiently abrupt to interfere with cultivation, except at the mounds and along the streams. There are no lakes and sloughs and no flat expanses of territory such as characterize some por-

¹"Rock county, in the extreme southwestern corner of the state, holds the enviable position of being the richest agricultural county in the United States. According to the census of 1900, the per capita deposits in Rock county were found to be \$82.79, or \$413.18 for each family in the county. The census of 1900 gave Rock

county a population of 9668. There are deposited in the various banks \$800,405.59. Practically all of this belongs in the county."—*Minneapolis Times*, February, 1902.

²Minnesota Geological Survey, 1884.

tions of southwestern Minnesota; consequently there is no waste land from this source. The only exceptions to the general description are the mounds, located near the center of the county, and the strip of country extending northwestward therefrom, in which are frequent rock outcrops and over which soil is thin.

Geologists tell us that the physical features of Rock county were fashioned to a considerable extent by the action of the ice during the glacial period thousands of years ago. Basing an estimate on the known resisting force of the red quartzite found at the mounds and the marks made on the rocks by the action of the ice, it is figured that the ice-sheet that at one time covered Rock county may have been eleven miles thick. But the markings left on the rocks are not the only things to be considered in making the calculation. Prof. N. H. Winchell has written of this estimate: "The import of this calculation, therefore, cannot be much more than to warrant the statement that the ice was very thick, perhaps several miles." Of the evidences of glacial action in Rock county, the Minnesota Geological Survey (1884) says:

There is evidence of glacier action, or what has been recognized as evidence of glacial action, in Rock county south of the coteau. The quartzite is polished, striated and sculptured superficially on the tops

of the ridges in the central part of the county as only glacier ice is known to do. . . . At another point, about ten miles north of Luverne, glacial marks were observed running south 10 degrees west. On the rock at the mound they run 25 degrees to 30 and 35 degrees west. In many places they are conspicuous and abundant, and perfectly preserved, covering considerable areas.

It seems almost impossible that in so level and open a country, and on the same rocks, without apparent cause, the glacier which must have been hundreds of miles wide, if it existed here at all, could have taken such diverse directions in so short distances. It cannot be doubted, however, that this marking was done by the force that exerted a great pressure at the same time that the marks were made. This pressure is evinced not only in the marking itself, which is on the hardest formation found in the state, but in the minute cross-fractures that cover the surface where this rasping has taken place, and yet leave it in the main a smooth and moutonned surface. These cross-fractures run curvingly downward at varying angles with the surface, and to all depths less than an inch, but usually to less than one-sixteenth of an inch, and indicate perhaps an incipient crushing to the depth of at least an inch. They show in what manner the rasping reduced the original projecting knobs. Where the natural seams or planes of jointage cross the rock, causing the quartzite to chip off sooner and deeper with a curving and conchoidally fracture, these little checks are larger. Their prevailing direction is transverse to the rasping force, so that the rock, along some grooves, has short conchoidally fractured structure traverse to the grooves, penetrating it to a depth of a quarter to half an inch, exhibited now in a series of little curving furrows where the laminae broke off successfully, the convexities of the laminae being toward the north. . . .³

³Hon. Warren Upham has told of specific investigations in Rock county. He wrote as follows (Geological Survey, 1884):

"Very interesting glacial striae were seen on the quartzite, one rod east of the road about a mile north of where the east road from Luverne to Pipestone City rises upon the quartzite of the mound, probably in the southwest quarter of section 23, Mound. At its west edge a width of two feet . . . is striated from north to south, while the rest is striated south 35 degrees west. The line dividing these areas marks a definite change of plane in the rock surface, which is inclined downward at the west 4 or 5 degrees, and at the east about half as much; making a beveled angle of 5 degrees or perhaps 7 degrees. It seems to me that these striae were probably engraved at different dates by one ice sheet which had constantly covered the district. When the ice attained its maximum area, the current of this portion would be nearly from north to south; but during the final melting, as its retreating

western border came nearer and nearer to this place, the current must have been deflected southwestward, approximating to a direction perpendicular to the ice-border. That the striae bearing south 35 degrees west belong to a later date than those from north to south, is made quite certain by the fact that the former is approximately the prevailing course of striation in this region; for the last glacial erosion upon any area must obviously efface the greater part of the earlier striae.

"About a mile farther north, perhaps in the southeast quarter of section 15, Mound, on a similar small, low exposure of quartzite, also one rod east of the same road, similar striation was observed, the larger (west) part of the exposed rock surface being striated from north to south; and the smaller (east) portion, south 35 degrees west. A slight difference in slope of these differently striated portions of the rock surface is also seen here, forming a beveled angle. These observations agree in all respects with the preceding."

The soil of Rock county is a drift deposit. It is dark-colored, fine-textured, abounds with organic matter—ingredients derived from the accumulation of decomposed vegetable matter through long ages of growth and decay—and is of unexcelled fertility. It has a wonderful capacity for the absorption of moisture and an equally wonderful, and perhaps consequent, ability to withstand drought. It has come to be recognized as a distinguishing characteristic of Rock county that its soil will stand more wet weather and more drought—and produce good crops under either condition—than most any other known agricultural country.⁴ In the northwest portion of the county, particularly in parts of Mound, Denver and Rose Dell townships, rocks appear on the surface and the soil covering is thin, but only in occasional spots is the land unsuited to cultivation. All through the northern part occasional stones are found in the soil, but these become less frequent toward the south, and in the southern part no stones at all appear on the surface.

The soil composition of Rock and Pipestone counties presents some peculiarities not common in the neighboring counties of southwestern Minnesota, they lying mainly outside of what in geology is termed the morainic belt, which includes most of southwestern Minnesota. Rock county is till-covered, the deposit exhibiting a thickness and general uniformity in its features equal to, if not greater than, most of the counties that lie within the morainic belt. Its composition does not change so frequently to gravel and sand,

and its upper surface is not so frequently broken by hillocks or depressed by short valleys. Toward the south, however, the soil exhibits features that seem to indicate a greater age than that of the north. There the gravel stones, particularly those of lime stone, are rotted. Its boulders become less conspicuous and less numerous and it assumes a pebbly, rather than stony, composition. Within it appear limy concretions that are common to the Mississippi and Missouri valleys. These concretions accompany this pebbly composition, until by gradual withdrawal of the pebbles, there is found a fine clayey loam which cannot be distinguished from the loess loam of the Missouri valley. This transition does not involve the whole thickness of the till, but pertains to its upper portions. At a few feet below the surface the till, even in the southern part of Rock county, is stony.⁵

The soil analyses indicate exceptional fertility and durability, but the magnificent crops which the soil of Rock county produces speak more eloquently than the scientist can. The testimony of farmers who have accumulated wealth and independence affords unquestionable proof of the richness of the soil. Rock is an agricultural county. The principal products are corn, barley, oats, wheat, rye, flax, hay, livestock, dairy products, poultry, fruit and vegetables. In the early days the settlers confined their energies almost exclusively to grain farming and largely to wheat raising. Now diversified farming is the rule.⁶ Every farmer raises stock

⁴" . . . These counties [Rock and Pipestone] are among the best in the state for all farming."—Minnesota Geological Survey, 1884.

⁵Prof. N. H. Winchell has mapped Rock county as to its soil formation. On the map the different formations are made to include territory as follows: All of Rose Dell and Springwater, nearly all of Mound and about one-third of Denver townships are Potsdam quartzite formation; nearly all of Battle Plain, Vienna, Magnolia, about two-thirds of Denver and the greater part of Kanaranzi, Luverne and Beaver Creek townships are till, smooth

and undulating; small parts of Battle Plain, Vienna, Magnolia, Kanaranzi, Luverne and Beaver Creek townships—along the streams—are loess, magnified drift; practically all of Martin and Clinton townships are loess, magnified drift.

⁶Said N. H. Winchell in the publication of the Minnesota Geological Survey, edition of 1884: "The main material product of these counties [Rock and Pipestone] is now, and will always remain, wheat, of which they will produce as much to the acre as any county in the state."

and many engage in dairying on a large scale.

The estimated mean elevation of Rock county above sea level is 1510 feet. The mean elevations of the several townships in feet are as follows: Battle Plain, 1550; Vienna, 1520; Magnolia, 1490; Kanaranzi, 1475; Denver, 1620; Mound, 1575; Luverne, 1480; Clinton, 1440; Rose Dell, 1600; Springwater, 1525; Beaver Creek, 1450; Martin, 1440. The height of the several points on the line of the Rock Island railroad, as determined by the surveyors, is as follows: Kanaranzi river, 1427; divide, 1527; Elk creek, 1444; summit Rock railroad grade, 1527; Rock river, 1444; Luverne depot, 1472; foot of Blue mounds, 1532; Mound creek, 1496, summit Mound creek grade, 1612; highest point on divide, 1635; headwaters Mound creek, 1722; divide (near county line), 1721. On the line of the Omaha the altitudes are as follows: Drake (Magnolia), 1516; Elk slough (grade), 1469; summit (grade), 1515; Rock river (water), 1423; Luverne, 1451; summit (five miles west of Luverne), 1543; Beaver Creek depot, 1443; Beaver creek (water), 1385; state line, 1383. The elevation of Ashcreek station is 1396 feet above sea level, and where the Doon branch crosses the state line the elevation is 1374 feet.

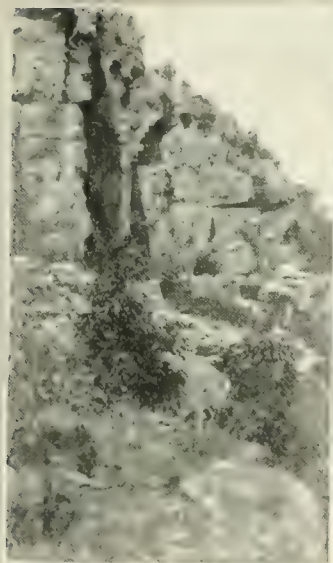
Rock county has one of the most perfect systems of drainage of any section of the west, there being rivers or creeks of importance in every township. All the streams which enter the county discharge their waters to the Missouri river, and Rock county is the only one in the state of Minnesota of which this is true.⁷ The principal streams are Rock river, Kanaranzi creek, Chanpepedan creek, Split Rock river and Beaver creek.

The largest and most important of these streams is Rock river—the Inyan Reakah of the explorers. The Rock river system, which is tributary to the Missouri river, through the Big Sioux, includes about 1702 square miles of territory. The Rock has its sources in Pipestone, Murray and Nobles counties. It enters Rock county at an elevation of 1500 feet above sea level, flows in a southerly direction through Battle Plain, Vienna, Luverne and Clinton townships, and leaves the county at an elevation of 1350 feet. Its volume is augmented by springs and it is a stream of clear water, with a gravelly bed. It varies in width from fifty to one hundred feet and its depth is from two to five feet. It meanders through a beautiful valley, one-half mile in width, and is enclosed by bluffs along a part of its course. In the southern part of the county the bluffs do not have the usual steepness, but rise by moderate slopes to the general level of the undulating upland. Flowing into Rock river within the county are the Chanpepedan and Elk creeks, from the east, and Mound and Ash creeks, from the west. The two former flow through deeply cut valleys and are from fifty to one hundred feet below the general level. Another tributary of the Rock, which, however, enters it beyond the boundaries of Rock county, is the Kanaranzi, flowing through the eastern and southern parts of Kanaranzi township in a deep-cut channel.

From the vicinity of Luverne to the state line and farther south timber is nearly continuous in a narrow belt along Rock river. Its most abundant species are cottonwood, soft maple, white elm and white ash; box-elder and bur oak occur less frequently; and bass is absent. Wild plums, grapes and gooseberries are plentiful. Many beautifully spreading elms, fully six-

⁷Nearly all of the streams of Pipestone county and a part of those of Nobles and Jackson

counties do, but Rock is the only one which sends all its waters to the Missouri.



THE BLUE MOUNDS

ty feet in height, grow beside the river near Luverne. Farther to the north timber is found sparingly and in occasional groves along the Rock river. On the tributaries of this stream in Rock county, and on Split Rock and Beaver creeks, timber is absent or very scanty.*

Beaver creek drains a large part of the western portion of Rock county, and, like nearly all the streams of the county, is cut deep below the general surface of the land. It has its sources in Rose Dell and Denver townships, flows south and southwest and empties into the Big Sioux beyond the county's boundaries. In its course it receives the waters of several unimportant streams. Mud creek drains a small territory of southwestern Rock county and empties into the Big Sioux.

A most picturesque stream is the Split Rock river, which drains the northwestern part of Rock county and finds its way to the Big Sioux. It is formed in Rose Dell township by several small streams—Rose Dell, Mud and Pipestone creeks. It has a swift current and has worn its way many feet below the level of the surrounding country.

Rock county was so named because of immense quantities of rock within its borders. The mind is inclined to associate a rocky country with a barren, unproductive one, but this can not be done with Rock county. Although millions and millions of tons of rock are exposed to view, its area on the surface is limited and results in little waste land. The whole of Rock county is underlaid with rock. The exposures, which terminate in the Blue mound near Luverne, are from the same source as those at the Pipestone quarries. The rock disappears from the surface at the Pipestone quarries and does not appear again until near the village of Jas-

per. On the Split Rock are frequent exposures, while in the townships of Rose Dell, Springwater and Mound, rock appears above the ground in many places. There is a very large rocky outcrop in the northwestern part of Mound township, the rock dipping northwest with a throw or twist, which, changing slightly, soon brings it below the surface.

At a point about ten miles north of Luverne this rock becomes frequently exposed, both in the valleys and on the hills, and continues so to the mound near Luverne, where it suddenly breaks off, along the west side of Rock river, and is not known to the south of that place. Throughout this distance it forms a high plateau, three or four miles wide and about a hundred feet higher than the prairies east and west, but the surface, though frequently rocky, is not rough. It is undulating, and the plateau sinks gradually down to the level with the rest of the country on either side. This plateau terminates abruptly in the rocky and precipitous bluff facing southeastward, three miles north of Luverne, in what is known as "the mound." On the plateau which terminates in "the mound" are a succession of ridges, or swells, with low, changeable dip, though the most observable is to the northwest. These ridges are not covered with gravel or sand like some ridges in southwestern Minnesota, under the operation of glacial forces (ice and water), but, while they occupy the grand divide of the county, they are nearly bare on their tops and along their slopes, or are thinly covered with a gravelly loam, while the drift, even the stony clay that has been attributed to ice, occupies the valleys between to the thickness of at least thirty or forty feet.

*J. F. Shoemaker in an early day reported having observed the following trees and shrubs in Rock county: White elm, white ash, cottonwood, willow, soft maple, box-elder, hackberry, bur oak, prickly ash, smooth sumach, frost

grape, Virginia creeper, climbing bittersweet, wild plum, choke-cherry, black raspberry (common on the mound), wild rose, thorn, June berry, prickly wild gooseberry, black currant, wolf-berry, elder.

All over these ridges, which vary from a quarter of a mile to three or four miles in length, and are for the most part thinly covered with soil and turf, there are little nests of large blocks of quartzite so piled together that they seem to have been thrust up from below by some force. The edges of these blocks are squarely broken off and slope toward each other, i. e. toward the center of the pile, while the blocks themselves lie so their upper surfaces slope in all directions away from the center. These upheaved spots vary from five to fifteen feet in diameter, or perhaps more. They may have been caused by ice, i. e. alternate freezing and thawing with the change of seasons, aided by the force of vegetation and a little soil gradually getting into the openings.

The high table land terminates abruptly at a point about three miles north of Laverne and forms a precipice—the Blue mound—a wonderful work of nature. The precipice, facing the east, is about two miles in length and is a vast wall of jagged rocks. The elevation is about 175 feet above Rock river, which flows not far from its base, and the perpendicular bluff is from forty to sixty feet high. Owing to a dip of about ten degrees from the horizon, nearly west, and to the breaking off of the upper layers, causing a gradual slope from the brow of the hill backward through several rods, the actual thickness of beds visible may be 150 feet. The rock here also appears to be almost entirely a reddish or pink, heavy-bedded quartzite. The main bluff curves westwardly at both ends, and by reason of the dip and ravines that enter the valley from the west, its exposed layers gradually disappear under the soil in that direction, and the rock is lost on the prairie. From the base of the perpendicular wall of rock, which is about a hundred feet above the Rock river, a talus of blocks and frag-

ments of quartzite, mingled with the glacial drift, curves gracefully down to the bottomland. At points in this slope the quartzite beds are seen in place.

The mound is a conspicuous landmark from the east, south and north. From its summit a grand view of the surrounding country can be obtained and its romantic fastnesses have been the scenes of many picnic parties.

The red quartzite has been quarried for building purposes from early days, and many of the finest buildings in Laverne and Jasper are built from Rock county stone. During the eighties, quarries at the mound near Laverne were operated quite extensively, and some of the material was shipped to the cities for building and paving purposes. Where the rock outcrops in the northwestern part of the county, at Jasper, the rock has been quarried extensively since 1888, the industry being the leading one in Jasper. Large forces of men are constantly employed and there is a big payroll.

Rock county is developed beyond the point reached by many counties of southwestern Minnesota. With transportation facilities it is well supplied, every township in the county being touched by one or more railways. The Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha railroad traverses the county from east to west and a branch of that road extends southward from Laverne. The Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific railroad passes through the county north and south and is fed by a branch line from Hardwick to Worthington. The county has excellent wagon roads, and local and long distance telephone lines form a complete network, reaching every community. Each village has from one to five rural delivery mail routes, and there are few farms to which mail is not delivered daily.

CHAPTER XV.

THE NEWSPAPERS.

AT THE date of the publication of this volume six weekly newspapers are published in Rock county, namely: Rock County Herald at Luverne by the estate of the late H. J. Miller, A. O. Moreaux, editor and manager; Luverne Journal by R. H. Ross, managing editor; Magnolia Advance by I. M. Cady, Beaver Creek Banner by H. H. Peters, Hills Crescent by A. A. Hanson, and Hardwick Star by W. R. Minard. Only these six journals survive out of a total of nineteen that have been founded since the newspaper history of Rock county began. Of the nineteen, seven were county seat journals, the Herald, Gazette, Times, Democrat, News, Journal and Western Literary Journal; five were published at Beaver Creek, the Graphic, Bee, News-Letter, Magnet and Banner; one, the Crescent, at Hills; three, the Citizen, Advance and Initiator, at Magnolia; the News and Star at Hardwick; and the Pioneer at Kenneth. The period of life of these papers varied from a few weeks to thirty-eight years.

In pioneer communities of the west the establishment of the first paper was always an item of great importance. A new settlement required a champion, and not until the settlement boasted a news journal was its permanency assured. After the founding of the pioneer journal it be-

came "our paper" to all the residents—an institution in which to take pride—and everybody assumed the duty of seeing that it was properly supported. Sentiment entered largely into the new enterprise, and it has seldom occurred that the pioneer paper did not have a long life of usefulness. Notable examples locally are the Rock County Herald, Windom Reporter, Jackson Republic, Worthington Advance and Pipestone County Star.

The little settlement at Luverne was no exception to the general rule, and I find that in the spring of 1872, when the town boasted little except a determination to become greater, the people were clamoring for, and offering a bonus for, a newspaper. A correspondent signing himself "Settler" wrote the following, which appeared in the Jackson Republic of May 29, 1872:

The citizens are very anxious to have a county paper established here and there is no doubt that it would receive good support. There is a bonus offered of about \$400. One gentleman offers \$150 cash and will subscribe for fifty copies; many others will take from three to ten; therefore come along, Mr. Editor, and we will cordially welcome you, one and all.

The efforts of the residents of Luverne to induce some one to cast his fortunes and his printing press with the new settlement were not successful until the spring of 1873. During the month of May a

printing outfit, consisting principally of an old Washington hand press and a few cases of worn out type, was hauled in from the south in a lumber wagon drawn by oxen. The outfit became mired in the mud a few miles from the town, and P. J. Kniss and E. D. Hadley went down to assist in extricating it. S. J. Jenkins, the owner of the outfit, announced that he was looking for a location to launch a paper, and he was heartily welcomed.¹ He set up shop in one corner of a real estate office, and on May 23, 1873, he issued the first number of the Rock County Herald.²

The Herald was founded as a seven column folio and only two of its pages were printed at home. Its politics were republican and its subscription price was \$2.00 per year. Mr. Jenkins employed Charles F. Crosby as managing editor and E. D. Hadley as local editor, who were connected with the paper less than a year. H. A. Gregory became interested in the publication of the paper on November 28, 1873, the firm of publishers being Jenkins & Gregory and Mr. Crosby retaining editorial control. The latter's connection with the Herald ceased at the beginning of the next year, the owners, as a measure of economy, attending to the editorial feature. On April 10, 1874, Mr. Gregory sold his interest to his partner, and thereafter the founder conducted the paper alone. Reviewing the first year's history of the Herald, Mr. Jenkins wrote:

With this number the Herald completes its first volume. One year ago, in answer to a want profoundly felt by the people of this vicinity, we tried the experiment of publishing a newspaper in Rock county. Experience in other localities of the far west had taught us enough to prevent our entertaining any idea of suddenly becoming

rich at the newspaper business in so new a country among a population of pre-emptors and homesteaders. Aided at the outset by the energy of Judge Crosby, who enlisted the business men in our enterprise, and by the pen of Mr. Hadley, we started off with a generous patronage in the line of local advertising and a fair subscription list, and we proceeded to business. Since that time we have regularly issued the Herald in spite of storm, oppressive heat and wintry cold, in spite of all opposing elements, never missing a number. While it is the custom of many frontier papers to suspend publication through the winter months, the Herald has not failed to visit the fireside of each subscriber once a week through the long winter. Our anticipations have not failed pecuniarily; although we have not become bloated capitalists, we have had our "meat in due season."

The founder of the Herald sold in February, 1875, to A. C. Croft, and that gentleman sold a half interest, on June 3, 1876, to his former foreman, A. L. Stoughton. The paper was published under the firm name of Croft & Stoughton until September 13, 1878, when the junior member of the firm became sole proprietor. Mr. Stoughton presided over the destinies of the Herald alone until the spring of 1879, when Herbert J. Miller, who was destined to be the publisher of the paper over thirty years and to play an important part in the affairs of the community, was admitted as a partner. On May 2, 1879, the Herald printed this modest announcement of the transfer: "In accordance with a long cherished plan, we take pleasure in introducing to our readers as associate editor and proprietor Mr. H. J. Miller, formerly of Stoughton, Wisconsin, recently of the Reinbeck (Iowa) Herald, and a gentleman whose acquirements and experience will redound to the interest of our patrons."

¹"A novel incident occurred about 1873. A man came into town barefooted, ragged and in his shirt sleeves. As usual in those days, we corralled him to find out his name and business. He said that his name was Jenkins and that he wanted to start a paper in Luverne. Thinking him a tramp or lunatic, we asked where his printing outfit was. He replied that it was coming at a whoa, haw, gee gait up the valley, behind a pair of oxen. He did

not ask a bonus, but wanted a shelter in which to run a machine and make a first-class paper. Sure, enough, the founder of the Rock County Herald proved a better man than he looked and he gave us a very good paper, one which now has a wide reputation."—R. O. Crawford in an address, 1888.

²George Bissell received the first copy taken from the press.

The publishing firm now became Stoughton & Miller, but almost immediately the management devolved upon the junior member, Mr. Stoughton leaving in the fall of 1879 to attend the university of Wisconsin. Under the direction of Mr. Miller the Herald began to improve and continued to do so until it developed into one of best and most liberally quoted country journals of the state. Mr. Miller wielded a trenchant pen and he made the Herald a powerful influence in the affairs of the city, county and state. In January, 1882, J. W. Hardwick, who had been engaged in teaching school at Drake station, bought Mr. Miller's interest in the Herald, the latter taking a position on the editorial staff of the Minneapolis Evening Journal at that time. Early in June of the same year Mr. Miller was obliged to foreclose a mortgage on Mr. Hardwick's interest in the Herald, and he again became one of the publishers. A few months later, on September 1, 1882, Mr. Stoughton sold his interest to Mr. Miller, who then became the sole owner and publisher.

Herbert J. Miller continued to publish the Herald until his death, May 8, 1909. From July 8, 1884, to November 26, 1889, it was published semi-weekly, and for a few months during the Spanish-American war in 1898 the Daily Herald was issued. Owing to ill health, in May, 1907, Mr. Miller announced his withdrawal from active management of the paper and installed A. O. Moreaux as manager and editor. Since Mr. Miller's death the Rock County Herald has been published by his estate, Mr. Moreaux continuing in charge. Under that gentleman's control the Herald has maintained its former high standing and is one of the best and most liberally quoted country journals in the state.

The pioneer journal has always been

republican in politics. Its size has varied from a five column paper, with only two pages printed in the home office, to a twelve page, six column paper, all printed at home, which is the present form.

Rock county's second newspaper was the Luverne Gazette, whose career was short. W. A. Hutton, formerly of Webster City, Iowa, brought a newspaper outfit to Luverne and on August 20, 1884, put out the first number of the paper, an eight column folio, with two "patent" pages. W. A. Hutton & Co. were the publishers. Two months after the founding C. H. Craig leased the plant, got out one or two numbers, and then gave up the lease. Publication was discontinued until the first day of the year 1885, when the Gazette was revived by E. Savage and W. A. Hammond, who leased from W. A. Hutton & Co. Mr. Savage became the manager and conducted the paper until May. He, too, gave up the effort of publishing a second paper in Luverne and departed. The proprietors of the plant made one or two unsuccessful attempts to find some one who would revive the Gazette, and early in 1886 sold the plant to H. M. Bruner, who removed the plant to Iowa.

The Times was the name of the next Luverne paper to be launched. It was democratic and appeared for the first time February 18, 1886. Buchanan Brothers, sons of R. J. Buchanan, a well known Iowa journalist, were the founders, W. T. Buchanan having the active management. The Times was not a financial success. The last number was printed April 28, 1887.

The Luverne Democrat, a six column quarto, was founded June 14, 1888, by Irving Bath and D. W. Bath, the latter having the management. Its life was short, the last number being issued on October 5 of the same year. The plant

was not moved, however, and immediately following its suspension appeared the Rock County News, printed from the Democrat office.

For the purpose of publishing the News, the Rock County News company, composed of prohibitionists, was organized and the plant of the Democrat was purchased October 3, 1888. N. R. Reynolds was selected to edit the paper and Clifford Reynolds was for a time associated with him in the business management. Harmony did not dwell among the stockholders of the company and there were several changes of stock within the next few months. Mr. Reynolds conducted the News as a prohibition paper until October, 1889, when he was succeeded by F. N. VanDuzee. The latter leased the plant for a time and then became one of the stockholders, later still becoming sole owner and conducting the paper in the interests of the alliance party.

Mr. VanDuzee published the News until August, 1893, when he sold to John E. King, publisher of the Nobles County Democrat, and S. S. Bellesfield, who was the local representative. They made the paper a democratic organ. In the latter part of October, 1893, the News was purchased by a syndicate styled the Rock County News Publishing company and composed of John J. Ryder, Max H. Voelz and W. M. Cutcheon. The company was capitalized at \$3000. Messrs. Ryder & Voelz, who had previously been connected with the St. Paul Globe, took the local management and published a democratic paper. Later Mr. Voelz became the sole editor.

Early in January, 1898, F. N. VanDuzee, the former proprietor, foreclosed a mortgage on the plant and at once sold to E. S. Holman. The latter conducted the News as a democratic paper (for a short time in partnership with Edward S.

Peterson) until November 28, 1900, when publication was suspended. The subscription list and good will were sold to the Luverne Journal, which had then been founded, and the plant was moved to Hardwick, where it did duty in publishing the Hardwick News, which had been founded the year before but which had no plant of its own. During a part of its career the Rock County News was ably edited and enjoyed a state wide reputation.

Western Literary Journal was the name of a little monthly magazine devoted to literature which was issued a few times in the fall of 1889. F. M. Bailey and F. L. Hinkly were the publishers.

The last paper founded in the county seat was the Luverne Journal, which is still published. The Journal came into existence August 18, 1898, and was founded by W. H. Workman. It was founded as a five column quarto and as a republican paper, but at the end of two years became a disciple of the democratic faith. Mr. Workman presided over the new paper four years and eight months, selling in April, 1903, to Daniel Gagen. The latter managed the Journal only a few months, selling in November to P. I. Niester and J. Edward Jensen. The latter took charge of the office but remained only a short time.

In April, 1904, R. R. Hickie located in Luverne and assumed control of the Journal under contract with Mr. Niester, who was the owner, the two publishing the paper together. The plant was sold under a mortgage in July, 1904, being bid in by the former owner, W. H. Workman. The following day he sold to R. R. Hickie and A. H. Osborne, Jr., and in September the latter became sole owner by purchasing his partner's interest. Mr. Osborne published the paper until July, 1905, when W. V. Olin took the manage-

ment, being assisted by J. L. Marshall. Later A. E. Smalley was the manager. The ownership became vested in A. C. Finke, A. J. Daley and C. D. Eckliff. Mr. Finke bought his partners' interests and on February 1, 1909, sold to C. C. Lowe. The latter greatly improved the Journal and made it an excellent publication. Mr. Lowe sold the Journal in August, 1910, to E. D. Lum, who published it until the following spring. R. H. Ross became the managing editor in February, 1911.

The third newspaper founded in Rock county and the first of the five that have had an existence in Beaver Creek was the Beaver Creek Graphic. The little village on the Beaver had developed during the early eighties into a lively place and its citizens offered support to a paper which would champion its cause. A plant was installed, and on August 27, 1885, appeared the Beaver Creek Graphic, founded by Charles Y. Knight and F. A. Knapp. The new journal started off like a winner and received liberal support during the early part of its history. Three months after its founding Mr. Knight sold his half interest to Rev. H. W. Knapp, and the publishing firm became H. W. Knapp & Son. They conducted the Graphic with indifferent success until January, 1887, when Mr. Knight secured the interest of the elder Knapp and the founders of the paper again became the publishers, Mr. Knight becoming the editor. John Park, who had been in business in Beaver Creek, took charge of the paper in July, 1887, and managed it until it suspended in September, 1888, to be revived a few weeks later as the News-Letter.

In opposition to the Graphic, on March 27, 1886, appeared the Beaver Creek Bee, published by the Beaver Creek Publishing company and edited by Col. Harrison White. The Bee was printed from the of-

fice of the Rock County Herald. After the election in November, 1886, publication was suspended.

Early in October, 1888, Frank N. Robinson bought the old Graphic plant and commenced publication of the Beaver Creek News-Letter. He conducted it one year and then sold to Leon F. Carr. The News-Letter under Mr. Carr's administration was "published for fame, not for lucre" and succeeded in living under that motto until July, 1890. Publication was then discontinued, the proprietor having received an offer of support for a paper at Sioux Center, Iowa. After a month spent in raising the mortgage from the plant, Mr. Carr moved it to the new location.

For a little over a year Beaver Creek was without a paper. Then A. B. Vines moved a plant from Highmore, South Dakota, and on September, 25, 1891, issued the first number of the Beaver Creek Magnet. For a time the Magnet drew well and in June, 1892, was enlarged to a six column quarto, in which form it was published until January, 1897, when it was made a folio. Mr. Vines conducted the Magnet without much success or ability until August, 1897, when he moved the plant to Rushmore and founded the Rushmore Magnet.

The Beaver Creek Banner, the last paper founded in Beaver Creek, has had a life of eight years. This publication was started by Howe & Misener early in May, 1903, as a six column quarto. Lincoln Misener edited the paper until November, 1905, when he departed and the plant was bought by O. J. Nash at mortgage foreclosure sale. That gentleman conducted the paper until February 16, 1906, when J. Roland Doan leased the plant and conducted the Banner until May 10 of the next year. The next two months Fred W. Gluck edited the journal. On July 5, 1907, A. E. Caldwell took

charge of the paper for the Beaver Creek Publishing company, which was controlled by Finke & Nash, of Hills.

Mr. Caldwell bought the Banner plant in September, 1907, and conducted the paper until February, 1909. He was unsuccessful in putting the paper on a sound financial basis, and on February 26 announced that the plant had passed into the hands of the following named Beaver Creek business men: S. L. Todd, F. E. Henton, E. C. Brooks, E. W. Timm, William T. Jennings, H. Ohs, J. C. Claussen and M. O. Page. Mr. Howe, of Valley Springs, was employed to conduct the paper, which he did until April 9, 1909. At that time H. H. Peters, who had bought the plant a few weeks before, took possession and he has since presided over its destinies. He changed the form to a five column quarto, added machinery and material, and has brought the Banner up to a prosperous condition.

Magnolia's first paper was the Magnolia Citizen, founded in February, 1893, by I. M. Cady. It was printed in the office of the Adrian Guardian and was published only a short time, discontinuing in April.

The town was not destined to long remain without a newspaper, however. In April, 1893, publication of the Adrian Citizen, a peoples party organ, was discontinued, and in May the plant was purchased by I. M. Cady and G. E. Green, who on June 16 issued the first number of the Magnolia Advance. In October, 1893, Mr. Green sold his interest in the paper to S. S. Smiley, but purchased it again the next month, and the Advance was published by Cady & Green until 1895. That year Mr. Green retired, since which time Mr. Cady has been the owner and publisher. The Advance is a seven column quarto. It is independent in politics but has always supported the republican national ticket.

For a time Magnolia had a second pa-

per, the Initiator, which was published as a peoples party journal by L. C. Long, at one time the nominee of his party for congress. In February, 1900, he discontinued the publication, moved the plant to the new town of Wilmont, and on March 2, 1900, started the Wilmont Initiator.

The only paper ever established in the town of Hills is the Hills Crescent, which began life on August 17, 1893, and which has ever since been published. F. M. Bailey and Orrie Haislet were the founders. Hills had for some time wanted a newspaper and finally inducements were offered Mr. Bailey to launch the enterprise. Mr. Bailey has told of the founding of the Crescent in the issue of that paper of August 20, 1903:

Mr. Bailey had at that time \$95 in cash, which he at once put into a first payment on type and material, but he hadn't enough to buy a press. It so happened that S. S. Haislet, of the Adrian Guardian, was friendly to the long gander-shanks and agreed to furnish the press if Bailey would take his son Orrie along as a partner in the enterprise. This press was an old Ramage. It had been used by Ben Franklin, and later the Decorah Posten was printed on it when Mr. Amundson had no more money than Mr. Bailey. It was the oldest press in use in the United States, printed one page at a time, and was used for the Crescent for nearly three years. Saturday the outfit reached Hills and Mr. Bailey started on his wheel early and rode to Hills. That afternoon he rented a building, made up a dummy of the paper and hustled eight or ten columns of ads. . . . Sunday Orrie Haislet arrived by team from Adrian with the press. Monday they carried the outfit from the depot. . . . The new firm of Bailey & Haislet couldn't raise the \$5 freight due on the outfit, but Frank Jordan came to the rescue and paid in advance for five papers for a year, and Thursday the first issue of the Hills Crescent came out.

Six weeks after the founding the junior member of the firm sold his interest to B. F. Heastand for \$5, and a few months later Mr. Bailey became sole proprietor. For two months in 1895 Mr. Bailey issued a Daily Crescent, and from September 19, 1895, until March 4, 1896, when he sold out, the Crescent was a semi-

weekly. On this date the plant was purchased by a company of Hills business men, of which J. R. Wright was president, and H. E. Wyum, secretary. James W. Simmons was employed to conduct the paper. On April 15, 1896, the outfit was purchased by A. C. Finke and James W. Simmons, who conducted the paper under the firm name of Finke & Simmons until the next July. Mr. Simmons then sold to his partner, and Mr. Finke conducted the paper alone until August 11. On that date Olaf Nash bought a half interest, and for more than fourteen years the Crescent was published by Finke & Nash. During the greater part of the time under this regime Mr. Nash had charge of the paper. He conducted it in an able manner, made many improvements, and built it up to its present high standing. Messrs. Finke & Nash sold the Crescent September 1, 1910, to A. A. Hanson, formerly of Decorah, Iowa, who has maintained its former high standing.

Hardwick's first news journal was the Hardwick News. It was a six column folio and was founded by A. M. and D. J. Ross May 18, 1899, the mechanical work being done in the office of the Rock County News at Luverne. The News celebrated its first birthday by changing management, A. H. Higley being the purchaser. When the Rock County News suspended publication the plant was moved to Hardwick, and thereafter it was used in putting

forth the Hardwick News. A partnership was formed between E. S. Holman, the former publisher of the Rock County News, and Mr. Higley, who continued publication in partnership, the latter being editor and manager. With this change came a change in politics—from republican to democratic. When the plant was installed the size of the paper was increased to a five column quarto. From August to December, 1902, the News was conducted under a lease by J. S. Randolph, and thereafter by the former publishers. Holman & Higley suspended publication of the News July 6, 1906, alleging lack of support. An effort was made to form a company of local business men to take over the plant and continue publication, but the attempt was unsuccessful.

December 15, 1909, C. C. Lowe, of the Luverne Journal, and Charles J. Olsen began publication of the Hardwick Star. A few months later Mr. Lowe became sole publisher and installed C. Milton Schultz as editor and local manager. The Star was purchased by William R. Minard, formerly of Little Rock, Iowa, and that gentleman took possession August 3, 1910. Mr. Minard has since conducted the paper in a creditable manner.

The Kenneth Pioneer, established May 3, 1902, by B. H. Berry, had an existence of a few months. It was a five column quarto.



CHAPTER XVI.

REMINISCENT.

IN GATHERING data for a volume of this kind one runs across many stories of the early days for which no place can be found in the historical part but which are truly interesting and in many instances throw vivid light on early day conditions. These have been preserved and are here incorporated under the chapter heading "Reminiscent." Some of the stories have been written by early day residents; some are taken from the files of the local press; others are original, prepared by the author from data gathered from personal interviews.

THE PRAIRIE FIRES.

Those who lived in Rock county during the years of its early settlement, and up into the eighties, will never forget the alarm caused by the approach of a prairie fire. Many of the present generation are skeptical of the dangers to life and property from this source. Others can but marvel at the conditions that made a prairie fire dangerous or even possible. But conditions in the early days differed greatly from those of the present time. Then there were vast stretches of sparsely settled and unbroken prairie, covered with a dense growth of grass, which in the low places often grew to a great height. In the fall the grass died and formed a thick

covering of highly inflammable material, which "burned like a prairie fire" when it became ignited.

When a heavy wind accompanied one of these conflagrations the effect was thrilling. The flames would race over the prairie with the speed of the wind, leaping, bounding, rushing on their fiery way. By day the air would be filled with smoke and cinders and the atmosphere would become hazy; at night the heavens would be illumined by the blaze, and the bright lines of the raging fires could be seen, often miles in length. After the passing, the prairie would be left a blackened waste.

The few scattered settlers were in the greatest danger when one of these fires approached. Many settlers lost their whole belongings, and but few escaped without loss from this source. "Firebreaks," made by plowing furrows around the buildings or hay stacks, sometimes served as a check to the flames, but with a strong head wind the flames often jumped hundreds of feet, and in such cases the breaks were no protection. The favorite method of fighting fire was by "back-firing." When one of the terrors of the prairie was seen approaching with the wind, a fire would be set near the property to be saved. This, small at first, could be controlled and whip-

ped out on the leeward side, leaving the flames to slowly eat their way windward to meet the coming lurid destroyer. Sometimes a space of sufficient width was thus burned over in time to prevent the destruction. In case of a big conflagration fire fighting companies would be organized to go out and contend with the flames, using dampened sacks, quilts, or whatever was handy, to whip out the blaze.

Prairie fires continued a menace to the people of Rock county many years, or until the county had become quite thickly settled and subdued. Seldom did an autumn pass in the early days without one or more disastrous conflagration in some part of the county. Several times Luverne was threatened with destruction, and companies had to be formed to go out and fight the approaching fires.

One of the first recorded conflagrations occurred October 19, 1872, when nearly the whole of Rock county was burned over. The wind was blowing a gale and the fires swept over the prairies at a fearful rate, jumping fire guards several rods in width. Considerable loss was sustained by the few settlers living on the prairie, about one hundred tons of hay having been burned. Among the losers were L. McDermott, whose stable containing three horses and some machinery was destroyed, and C. A. Reynolds, who lost all his household goods and winter's supply of provisions.

In the spring of 1878 almost the entire county was blackened by the demons of the prairie, the heavens being nightly aglow with fiery flames for a week or more. One of the fires was started about two miles north of Luverne. This swept northward along Mound Creek valley and made lively work for the settlers in that vicinity. The same fire ran over the summit of Blue mound at nightfall, presenting a gorgeous aspect. On April 20, 1879,

a fire driven by a terrific wind swept up through the rank vegetation of the Rock river bottom, and for a time threatened the destruction of Luverne. A general alarm was turned in and nearly the entire population of the town turned out to protect the village. Men and teams took station at various defensive points and were successful in staying the flames with the loss of nothing except a quantity of hay.

Concerning a conflagration which burned over the northwestern part of the county on April 18, 1880, a Rose Dell township farmer wrote:

Much prairie fire! Most people know what a prairie fire is in this country, but we had one here on Sunday of a rather peculiar type. Everything was as dry as tinder. The peculiarity was in the wind, which blew at intervals from every point of the compass or whirled in eddies, lashing the fiery demon in all directions into a most majestic fury; roads, fire breaks, etc., seemed to offer no impediment to its prowess, and it would seem at times almost beyond the power of human ingenuity to stay its terrible progress. With the assistance of two of our neighbors we managed to save, by almost superhuman efforts, our hay and stables; it was only by taking advantage of the changes of the wind that we succeeded in this connection.

The county commissioners, on October 6, 1880, took measures to protect the county buildings in Luverne from the ever dreaded danger, instructing the county attorney to have fire guards plowed around all buildings belonging to the county. The Herald of October 8 said: "Our village is absolutely defenseless against danger from prairie fires. Something should be done about this matter at once."

A fire of considerable fury swept across the northern portion of the county October 28, 1882. It had started on the prairies of Dakota some three or four days before and when it reached Rock county was coming at race horse speed. In consequence of the terrible gale blowing the strip burned over was narrow. The fire swept across the county with fearful ra-

pidity, leaping over creeks and fire breaks, and all efforts to check its progress were unavailing.

One of the most extensive and destructive fires in the history of the county swept over a large tract of country in the northwestern part of the county on Sunday, November 11, 1883, and carried with it loss of property of considerable value. The fire was reported by the Rock County Herald of November 16 as follows:

Early Sunday morning the smoke from the fire was plainly seen in a northwesterly direction from this place, and later in the forenoon as the northwest wind, which had been blowing a gale for several hours, increased its fury, it became evident that the fire was approaching the town at a rate which threatened danger. A considerable company gathered upon the high ground in the northwest part of the village to watch the course of the fire and assist, if need be, in fighting it, while others went to work with teams and plows to make firebreaks. At times the indications were really alarming, and the general apprehension was in no wise diminished by the reports of those who had driven out toward the fire to ascertain what was best to be done. Fortunately, however, owing in part to the efforts of those who had been at work at some distance from the village, and partly to the obstruction to the progress of the flames occasioned by the plowed fields, the main line of the fire was broken within two miles of town and its direction was turned toward the north. During the afternoon and evening the fire worked its way toward the mounds and burned over a large tract of land north of town, including the summit of the mounds. During the night the wind changed to the south and the fire was driven northward and continued to burn all the following day.

The fire originated Saturday afternoon in the northwest corner of Beaver Creek township. At this time the wind was blowing from the south, but during the night it changed to the northwest and the fire took the course above described. It is understood that the greater part of the central portion of Springwater township was burned over and that much property was destroyed.

The northeastern part of the county was visited by one of the destroyers October 19, 1884, the fire having been started by sparks from a Burlington engine near the Norwegian church north of Luverne. A

strong southwest wind soon fanned the fire into a resistless current of flame, which swept with disastrous results over a considerable portion of the east part of Mound township and all that portion of Battle Plain lying west of the river. Toward evening the wind changed to the north and drove the fire southward. At a late hour in the evening, when the flames had reached Devil's run, they were extinguished by rain. The damage was confined to a few farmers, but was quite serious.

GAME IN EARLY DAYS.

In the days before white men came, Rock county was the home of several species of big game, including bison, elk and deer, and many fur bearing animals. On hunting and trapping expeditions the aborigines visited the county from time immemorial, and later, when settlement had been extended to the frontier regions, white trappers were wont to visit the streams with their traps and were richly rewarded.

The bison was among the first of the big game to depart after the arrival of settlers. The very first settlers occasionally saw stray members of this noble animal of the prairies and many evidences of his former presence in the shape of wallows and his bleaching bones scattered over the prairie. The elk also departed early, although a few were seen by the Rock county pioneers. So late as May, 1879, one traversed a portion of the county, having been seen crossing the farms of Messrs. Ellithorp and Green and making for the Rock river valley to the southeast.

Deer remained in the county for a longer period, and during the period of deep snow in the winter of 1880-81 quite a number were driven from their retreats and were seen; a few were captured. Soon after the well remembered October bliz-

zard the report of the presence of three or four of the animals on the mounds brought forth a dozen mounted hunters from Luverne, who, with a pack of fleet footed dogs, were soon on the trail. The game was located, and after a pursuit of several miles one was brought to bay and shot by Sheriff Edwin Gillham. The next February one was captured by a farmer in Vienna township, the frightened animal having fled to the farm house to escape dogs which were in pursuit.

Beaver and other fur bearing animals were taken along the streams for many years after the county was settled. During the early seventies quite a number of beaver were trapped by the settlers along Beaver creek in the township of the same name. A pioneer settler of the precinct tells me that at the mouths of the many deep holes, which are a feature of the stream, these cunning animals would cut down the willows and build formidable dams within a few days if unmolested. The local press in the fall of 1876 reported Rock river lined with implements of destruction for the taking of the valuable pelts.¹ Beaver were taken along this stream up into the eighties. In the spring of 1885 "Rattlesnake Dick," a well known trapper of the frontier, stopped in Luverne and reported that from the preceding November he had taken over seventy beaver between the mouth of Rock river and Luverne. In ten days he took eighteen of the animals between the village and Darling's ford.

¹"An ancient and respectable family of beaver that have dammed the river above Rolfe's ranch and made extensive preparations for passing the winter in quiet comfort are soon to be called on to furnish material for warm caps, collars, etc., while their paddle shaped caudal appendages will be made to yield delicious soup for R. Douglass who has had an eye to their movements for some weeks." -Herald, October 21, 1876.

FIRST COUNTY FAIR.

A more primitive and informal function was probably never witnessed than Rock county's first fair, held at Luverne in November, 1873. Within one month an agricultural society was organized, the fair advertised and held and the awards made. The first step was taken in October, when a number of people interested themselves in the formation of an agricultural society and issued a call for a meeting.² On October 18 the meeting was held and an organization perfected, T. P. Grout being chairman and G. W. Kniss secretary of the initial meeting. The following officers were elected: T. P. Grout, president; L. B. McCollum, vice president; H. C. Spalding, secretary; Philo Hawes, treasurer. The executive committee was composed of the following named gentlemen: G. H. Olds, E. L. Grout, I. Crawford, E. D. Hadley, A. E. Thompson, H. C. Wilson, R. W. Shaw and D. R. Bowen.

The fair was held in November and although the notice had been short there was a large attendance. The Herald of November 21 reported the fair, in part as follows:

The display in the different departments was much better than could have been expected. On account of the extreme youth and the financial condition of our society, no cash premiums were offered. This step seemed to give general satisfaction, all believing it better to use the funds of the society for the improvement of grounds, buildings, etc. Owing to the lateness of the season and the uncertainty of the weather, we consolidated the business of three days, dispensed with horse racing, made this a purely agricultural show, and commenced and ended our fair in one day. Fortune favored us and gave us a beautiful day.

The forenoon was occupied in making en-

²"To the Farmers: We, the undersigned farmers of Rock county, hereby invite the other farmers of Rock county to meet with us at the school house in Luverne at 2 o'clock p. m. of Saturday, October 18, 1873, for the purpose of exchanging views on the proposed organization of a county agricultural society, and if deemed advisable to organize the same. (Signed) Charles Williams, James Marshall, Abram Os-
mun, Seth Mitchell, Philo Hawes, P. J. Kniss, G. W. Kniss, Amos E. Estey, J. Hart Loomis, C. R. Henton and Thomas Williams"

tries, and early in the afternoon the judges brought in their reports, after which a short speech was made by T. P. Grout, president of the society. He was followed by C. Williams, E. L. Grout, E. H. Bronson and William Grout. At the close of the remarks the secretary read the list of awards, when our citizens began to disperse, feeling that this, our first effort, was a success, the first of a series, humble in itself, but the beginning of grand results.

The following were awarded premiums: H. C. Spalding, E. T. Sheldon, Everett Grout, G. W. Kniss, S. Norton, Ira Crawford, B. S. Wold, T. P. Grout, C. Williams, P. Phinney, C. E. Older, O. O. Haga, J. Knight, L. McDermott, P. J. Kniss, William Grout, J. Gillard, Mrs. J. Gillard, Miss Vinnie Williams, Miss E. Hawes, Mrs. J. Knight, Mrs. T. P. Grout, Mrs. E. D. Hadley, Miss Fannie Grout, Mrs. Lina B. Kniss, Mrs. E. H. Bronson, Mrs. L. Comar.

SQUATTING ON RAILROAD LANDS.

A great deal of excitement was occasioned in Rock county in the spring of 1885, when the rumor was brought that, owing to the failure of the Sioux City & St. Paul Railroad company to fulfil the conditions upon which the grant of lands was made, all the lands which had originally been included in the grant were about to revert to the government. On the strength of the rumor, which it was reported came direct from Washington and was authentic, there was a general rush for the railroad lands in Mound, Vienna and Magnolia townships and within a few days over fifty quarter sections were "jumped," upon each of which a claim shanty was erected. The lands upon which the land-hungry located included not only the railroad lands but also those of Close Brothers & Co., who had purchased from the railroad company.

Within a few days it was authoritatively announced that no action had been taken by congress or the general land office de-

claring the land forfeited, that idle rumor had been the basis for the rush to the railroad lands. Upon this announcement the excitement subsided and most of those who had joined in the rush gave up the idea of obtaining free lands. A few, however, maintained that the railroad company had secured more lands than it was entitled to under the terms of the grant and determined to stay by their lands. Filings were refused by the land office, and in time a ruling of the general land office made clear that there had been no warrant for the excitement.

BORROWED THE COUNTY'S CASH.

In the early days of Rock county's history incidents sometimes occurred which may be classed as remarkable in the light of present conditions. Should the county treasurer of this day loan the county's funds to a private individual without authority from anyone, one can imagine that such action would be considered highly improper. Yet an event of this kind occurred in the early days without causing a ripple of excitement. The man who negotiated the loan—still a resident of Rock county—told me the story.

It was during the terrible grasshopper scourge that the wife of the settler in question was taken ill and it was decided to have her go to her old home in Iowa. In common with nearly all the residents of Rock county of that day, the family were without means, but the desire to give his wife the benefits of the more congenial surroundings of her old home led this homesteader to make an effort to raise the money among the neighbors. He spent a day canvassing the country in a futile attempt to borrow enough money to pay the railroad fare, but not a cent did he obtain. Disheartened, he proceeded on his way home, but on the way stopped to chat with a neighbor who was also the

treasurer of Rock county. The county official sympathized with his friend, but was likewise without means. He stated that he had in his possession the funds of Rock county, which reached a total of just about enough to meet the necessary expense of the journey, and remarked that it was a shame this money could not be put at his disposal.

"What security could you give if I should loan you this money?" asked the county treasurer. The settler replied that he had fourteen sacks of seed wheat, and then and there the loan was made. The wheat was hauled to the county treasurer's home with the understanding that it was to be sold in case there was a call for any of the county's funds; otherwise it was to be returned when the loan was paid. Within a short time money was secured from Iowa and the county treasurer of Rock county was again in possession of funds.

The credit of the settler who made the loan is as good today as when he borrowed the county funds, and he could today give security to the extent of several choice quarter sections of Rock county land.

THE JAMES BOYS' VISIT.

After the Northfield bank robbery, which occurred September 7, 1876, two of the most noted of the robbers, Frank and Jesse James, in escaping from the scene of their crime, came west and passed through Rock county. News of the depredations were carried all over the country by the newspapers, and wherever members of the band appeared in their flight out of the country efforts were made to capture them.

After participating in a fight at Madelia the James boys rode southwest, reaching Rock county one Sunday morning. They were headed for the mounds, about which they had heard, in the hope that the rocky ridge would furnish them a place of ref-

uge. They appeared about ten o'clock in the morning at the home of Charles Rolph, in Battle Plain township, some 12 miles north of Luverne, and asked for breakfast, explaining their presence and appearance by stating that they were land-seekers and that they had been traveling in a wagon until the conveyance was destroyed by an accident. Mrs. Rolph served the meal to the strangers, who exhibited no signs of apprehension, they sitting with their backs to the door. The pictures of the James boys had been seen in the newspapers by Mrs. Rolph and she suspected that her guests were the famous outlaws. Her suspicions were strengthened by the fact that the men inquired the direction of the mounds and asked if there were any large crevices or caves in the stone formation. Upon her telling them that there was none, after finishing their meal, the strangers rode away. Mr. Rolph was away from home at the time but returned at the noon hour. Immediately after dinner he went to Luverne and notified the authorities.

Sheriff Ezra Rice with a posse started in pursuit, going to the Davis farm on Beaver creek. Later another party, including Charles Rolph, Billy Patterson, Mike McCarthy, Jack Dement and others, followed in the same direction. Near the state line a Norwegian farmer was found from whom the James boys had taken fresh horses, leaving their two jaded animals. The farmer reported that the outlaws had ridden south. The posses returned to Luverne, where another party was made up, augmented by several recruits from Worthington, to intercept the robbers in Iowa. All went to Larchwood, where it was learned that the men wanted were on the Sioux river at "Uncle Dan's ford." The pursuers divided so as to cover both sides of the river and approached the ford. J. Dement, one of the Luverne party, came

upon the outlaws, who fired, hitting the horse he was riding. The robbers escaped before other members of the party arrived on the scene.

TEN DOLLAR LAND.

It is interesting to note at this day and age, when Rock county lands are transferred at \$130 per acre, that not so many years ago the prices were ridiculously low. This prediction was made by the Rock County Herald on May 30, 1884:

The demand for town lots and Rock county real estate is increasing steadily and prices are rapidly advancing. Wild land in Rock county at \$15 per acre will be considered a bargain one year from this time.

Apparently the prediction did not come true, for we find in the Herald's issue of April 20, 1888, this wail:

The proposition may seem at first a doubtful one, but it is probably true that Rock county land would sell more readily if the prices asked for it were increased at least fifty per cent. There is no doubt about the fact that the prevailing price of land in this county is too low. The Creator couldn't afford to make such land as ours for \$10 an acre. The price wouldn't pay for the first cost. Land in Lyon county, Iowa, adjoining Rock county geographically, but widely removed from it in point of value and desirability, is held at from \$15 to \$18 per acre, and at this price finds ready purchasers, while land in Rock county, very much superior in every way, goes begging for buyers at from \$7 to \$10 per acre.

During the prosperous years of the early nineties land prices jumped, as the following from the Herald of February 12, 1892, shows:

Our people must accustom themselves to higher prices than those which have prevailed heretofore. It is no longer an unusual thing to get \$25 to \$27 per acre for improved farms and the prices are certain to go higher.

DIDN'T BUY THE CALVES.

During the terrible grasshopper scourge of the seventies the opportunities to borrow money were limited. Interest rates

were high and the few who had money to loan were not modest about getting their dues. The late A. O. Skattum, of Martin township, a number of years ago told the Hills Crescent man an experience he once had along this line.

Mr. Skattum, like the rest of Rock county settlers at the time, had a crop failure by reason of the voraciousness of the grasshoppers and found he had pressing debts to the amount of \$250. Having no funds to meet these bills, he applied to a Luverne man for a loan. The Luverne man was the agent for an eastern capitalist who was loaning money in the grasshopper devastated country, the capitalist, however, coming to the country personally to close the deals.

The day the money lender arrived Mr. Skattum went to town. When he arrived the agent informed him that he would be unable to secure \$250, but that he could have either \$200 or \$300, to make it even hundreds. As before stated, Mr. Skattum had debts of \$250 to meet, so he told the agent he would take \$300 and with the extra \$50 buy calves; that by the time the money became due he would have cattle enough to turn off to liquidate the obligation. The agent went out and in came the man who was furnishing the money. He asked what the borrower intended doing with the money. Mr. Skattum told him—not forgetting the calf scheme. The money lender retired and in came the agent again with the information that the money could be had. The question of the terms then came up, and Mr. Skattum found he would be obliged to pay the agent a commission of fifteen per cent, pay twelve per cent interest (one-half in advance), and \$5 for making out the papers.

Kicking didn't help matters and when he counted over the money he had just \$235, less than enough to pay his debts, and nothing left for calves.

HAWKING COUNTY ORDERS.

Private individuals were not the only ones whose finances were at a low ebb during the grasshopper days. The following from the Rock County Herald of May 4, 1877, gives an idea of the stranded circumstances of the county government of that day:

Some time ago mention was made in these columns of a plan whereby it was hoped to place Rock county on a sound financial footing, such as would enable the county treasurer to pay cash for county orders as soon as issued—a state of affairs “devoutly to be wished.” But it is not likely soon to be realized. The measure was discussed at the late meeting of the commissioners and a resolution concerning the same voted down. The principal objection arose from the fact that the salaries of our county officials, which form a considerable item in the annual budget of expenses, are payable in orders, at par, and the twenty or twenty-five per cent shrinkage in value is a matter that in no way concerns the county. This, doubtless, is true; but there are other considerable items that go to swell county expenses, in which the county is made to bleed rather freely for the benefit of a few bondholders. If Rock county can save money in the long run by permitting orders to be hawked about the street at seventy-five cents on the dollar, we shall be glad to know by what process of reasoning such a happy result it reached. Let us have more light on this subject.

SYMPATHIZED WITH THE COUNTY.

For years Rock county officials occupied the little, squat building that served for a court house—admitted by all to have been a disgrace to the county. Illustrative of the contempt in which the building was held, the story is told that late one cold winter night a seedy, sad and wayworn wreck of poverty, otherwise known as a tramp, knocked timidly at the outer and only door of the rickety, warped and weather beaten county building. John Kelley admitted him and the tramp asked if he might stay there all night.

“But,” replied Mr. Kelley, “this isn’t a hotel; this is a court house.”

“Well,” said the tramp as he surveyed

the bare walls and decrepit furniture of the place, “I’m pretty hard up myself but this county seems to be worse off than I am.”

A PROPHECY.

The Jackson Republic of August 13, 1870, printed the following prophecy concerning the rock formation of Rock county, and the uses to which it would some day be put:

Mr. Aiken Miner, while taking the census of Rock county, obtained several pieces of the celebrated rock in that county and has left a few specimens at our office. It has some properties of granite and will some day be of incalculable advantage to that section, both for buildings and for bridges when railroads shall reach the vicinity. The rock is capable of a very fine polish and will be used for many purposes aside from building. The inexhaustible supply and the scarcity east will make it a valuable possession to that county.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

Indicative of the times, there are found in the files of the Rock County Herald many interesting items. Under existing conditions the events recorded could hardly have happened. In many respects the residents of Rock county of thirty and forty years ago lived in a different world; not one of the little items quoted below was considered extraordinary at the time, but they would be if published in the same paper today. “The world do move.”

Butcher Wanted.—Why can’t we have a butcher shop in Luverne? Or if the time is deemed premature for the establishment of such a business to be depended upon solely for a livelihood, why cannot some one make arrangements to slaughter an ox or a cow or some sort of beef once or twice a week and sell the meat out to the citizens? (June 6, 1873).

Indians About.—There are said to be nearly one hundred Indians hunting elk some twenty-five miles to the north of us. That is near enough, and enough of them. (August 8, 1873).

To Buy a Safe.—A good sign. The county commissioners are talking about getting a safe for the use of the county. (November 7, 1873).

Holding Homesteads.—How amusing to see men, who apparently live in Luverne, show their caution at election time by refusing to vote here and going out to vote where they have homesteads. They don't live here after all. (November 7, 1873).

The Editor's Appeal.—We would like to put our subscribers in mind that we are out of wood and have no money to buy more. Will those who have been threatening to bring us wood on subscription put their threats into execution. (February 20, 1874).

The First Harvester.—On Wednesday, in company with a number of citizens, we visited the farm of H. C. Spalding for the purpose of witnessing the performance in the harvest field of a new candidate for public favor—the Harvester King, with Gordon's self-binder attached. . . . It is plainly evident that a complete revolution in the matter of harvesting small grain is at hand, and the never tiring arm of iron sinew will soon take the place of the softer muscle of weak humanity, and the husbandman, mounting his automatic machine, will march through the luxuriant fields of grain, laying the golden sheaves right and left, without the aid of uncertain and costly help. (July 29, 1876).

A Bargain.—Battelle sells kerosene at thirty cents per gallon. (November 2, 1877).

Reduction in Fare.—The St. Paul & Sioux City and Sioux City & St. Paul railroads will celebrate the coming in of new year by a general reduction of local ticket fares from five cents to four cents per mile on all divisions of their roads, to take effect January, 1878. (January 4, 1878. Advt).

Luverne Advertised.—The fact that Luverne is about to have street lamps has been widely circulated by the newspapers, daily and weekly, and Luverne has gained, in the way of prestige and free advertising by reason of this enterprise, more real benefit than can be measured by the actual cost of the improvement. (April 6, 1883).

Sowing Grass in Luverne's Streets.—A short time ago the village purchased sixteen bushels of grass seed and Wednesday the sowers went forth to sow it on the principal streets of the town. The harvest will be ultimate destruction to the weeds and a wonderful improvement in the appearance of the village. (April 27, 1883).

Some Excited.—The excitement on the streets Wednesday over the election returns was intense, and the crowd which gathered about the Herald bulletin board was decidedly enthusiastic. The reports Tuesday night and early in the morning were rather discouraging to the republicans, and the democrats wore smiling faces. Later in the forenoon, however, reports indicating republican success in New York, Indiana and Virginia were received and the repub-

licans went about the streets rejoicing. A number of flags were put out, but in the midst of the uncertainty which existed the display of bunting was made more as an indication of hopefulness than as a token of victory. (November 7, 1884).

Celebrate Blaine's Election!—While the democrats in Luverne were rejoicing at a bonfire over the election of Cleveland last Saturday evening the republicans of Beaver creek were making a similar demonstration in honor of the election of Blaine. Evidently one party or the other was rejoicing at a political funeral. (November 14, 1884).

First Shipment of Rock.—The first car load of rock from the mound quarries was shipped Tuesday, February 25, to Sibley, Iowa, for building purposes at that place. (February 27, 1885).

Trees for the Court Yard.—The improvements made this spring in the court house block will some time make these grounds very attractive. Three rows of trees have been set out around the block and the arrangement of the trees is calculated to shade the entire block except in the immediate vicinity of the court house. (May 8, 1885).

Bronson for President!—E. H. Bronson & Son got a complimentary vote in Magnolia township for president and vice president of the United States. It happened in this way: A citizen of Magnolia township who was working in Luverne drove out to Magnolia to vote. It was a long drive and he had but little time to spare, but he was a good democrat and determined to get in a vote for Cleveland at any sacrifice. By making a vigorous effort he succeeded in getting to the polls in time. He had his ticket all prepared and properly folded. In the same pocket with it he had a statement of account from E. H. Bronson & Son, made out on a narrow slip of paper about the size of a ticket, and folded like the ticket. In his haste to get in a vote for Cleveland our democratic friend got hold of the wrong ticket. And when the votes were counted one ballot was found bearing this inscription: "Mr. Blank, to E. H. Bronson & Son, Dr., to Mdse., \$2.40." (November 16, 1888).

A Dirty Shame.—Think it would be a good idea if the people of Hills would try to get some sidewalks in town so that when the people come into town to do their trading they will not have to wade in mud a foot deep. (February 24, 1892. Hills Correspondent).

Not a Fad.—The bicycle craze has struck Luverne in earnest. Several of our citizens have purchased new wheels this spring and many others are planning to do so. The bicycle is not a temporary fad, but is rapidly becoming a practical necessity. The wheel has come to stay. (April 21, 1893).

HISTORY OF
PIPESTONE COUNTY
MINNESOTA

CHAPTER XVII.

IN THE REIGN OF GITCHE MANITOU.

OF ALL the political divisions of southern Minnesota, Pipestone county is the youngest in point of white occupation; historically, it is the oldest in Minnesota. I dare say there is no spot on the North American continent which was better known or had greater fame among the peoples who inhabited the country before the coming of the Caucasian race than the Great Red Indian Pipestone quarry, located not far from the center of Pipestone county. The spot was the Indian's Garden of Eden; all the legends point to the fact that here the red race had its origin. Legend, tradition, hieroglyphics, all proclaim the spot one of great antiquity, a spot where were signed the Magna Chartas, where were fought the Indian battles of Bunker Hill and Waterloo, where were held the deliberations of The Hague (Indian) tribunal, centuries before the white race came to take control of affairs under a higher civilization. The mind wearies with the contemplation of what may have taken place in Pipestone county in the long ago.

Even the region itself is of earlier creation than the surrounding country. Geologists tell us that the rocks of the quarry are of the Huronian formation, antedating the Glacial period. The knowledge is obtained from the marks the ice made on the rocks when the vast fields of snow and

ice, miles in depth, dragged their weary way southward. The scratches are easily discernible upon the upper surfaces of the cliffs. Mementos of this visit are also found in the vicinity in the form of huge granite boulders, which were torn from their original resting places, long distances to the northeast, and deposited where we find them today. The "Three Maidens" are notable examples of this agency; they have occupied their present location for at least 6000 years, and possibly for the last 100,000 years.

Without taking into consideration the Indian traditions, it can be stated on authority that the red pipestone, which is found in no other place on earth, has been quarried for several thousand years. In the mounds of the ancient peoples who have been classed as Mound Builders, and who are supposed to have been a race preceding the Indian, have frequently been found articles manufactured of the red pipestone, or catlinite. Specific instances are mounds exhumed in Ohio by Messrs. Squire and Davis and by others in Iowa. In each case the pipestone was associated with implements of copper and other objects characteristic of the so-called Mound Builders, but not of the later, or Indian race. Pipes of this material, however, are rarely found in the mounds, even in the vicinity of the quarry, although pipes of

other varieties of stone have been frequently discovered in these historic burial places.

Succeeding the Mound Builders, or descending from them (as some authorities believe), the North American Indians continued the quarrying of the red pipestone and held the spot in great reverence and superstition. Here, for ages, generation after generation, the redman recorded the history of his tribe and his individual adventures, carved in the red quartzite with rude instruments in the form of symbols or hieroglyphics. These rude inscriptions alone proclaim the antiquity of the place. They were made on the glacial surfaces of the red stone located near the "Three Maidens," and were kept clear by the winds. Apparently they were made by pecking out the rock with sharp-pointed instruments, or possibly with other pieces of quartzite. The figures are of different sizes and dates, the latter being evinced by their manner of crossing and interfering and by the evident difference in the weight of the instruments used. They generally represent some animal, such as the turtle, bear, wolf, buffalo, elk, dog, and the Indian himself. The crane's foot is the most common; next is the image of man; third the turtle; and lastly the octopus, or devil fish. It seems to have been the custom for a warrior or hunter who had been successful in battle or the chase to leave a tribute of his thanks to the Great Spirit in a rude representation of his victory or his prowess about the boulders: perhaps, in a similar way, he invoked the good offices of the spirits of his tribe when about to enter upon some expedition. Occasionally several figures are joined by a line scratched in the rock, as though some adventure were narrated. The publication of the Minnesota Geolog-

ical Survey says of the hieroglyphics near the quarry:

This is the "sacred ground" of the locality. Such markings can be seen at no other place, though there is abundance of bare, smooth rock. The excavation of the surface of the rock is very slight, generally not exceeding a sixteenth of an inch, and sometimes only enough to leave a tracing of the designed form. The hardness of the rock was a barrier to a deep sculpturing with the imperfect instruments of the aborigines, but it has effectually preserved the rude forms that were made. The fine glacial scratches that are abundantly scattered over this quartzite indicate the tenacity with which it retains all such impressions, and will warrant the assignment of any date to these inscriptions that may be called for within the human period. Yet it is probable that they date back to no great antiquity. They pertain at least to the dynasty of the present Indian tribes. The totems of the turtle and the bear, which are known to have been powerful among the clans of the native races of America at the time of the earliest European knowledge of them and which exists to this day, are the most frequent objects presented. The "crane's foot," or "turkey foot," or "bird track," terms which refer perhaps to the same totem sign, the snipe, is not only common on these rocks but is seen among the rock inscriptions of Ohio, and was one of the totems of the Iroquois of New York.¹

While there is no data from which to determine the date that the aborigines first began the digging of the red pipestone, it is known that the Indians of the northwest have resorted to the place ever since their acquaintance with Europeans, for the purpose of getting material for their pipes. Over two centuries ago, in 1680, Father Hennepin, a Franciscan priest, visited the wilds of what is now Minnesota and found the pipes of red stone in possession of the natives. In his writings he describes the Indians and their pipes minutely, stating that some of the pipes were white, some black, and some red, but that the red were the most highly valued. Four years later, in 1684, Baron La Hontan, a French officer and explorer, visited the Mississippi river country and

¹All but two or three of the stones bearing these Indian pictographs have been gathered into a collection by Charles H. Bennett, of Pipestone. They were exhibited at the Louisi-

ana Purchase Exposition at St. Louis, in 1904, and Mr. Bennett was awarded a silver medal by the superior jury for this exhibit.

in his report mentioned the fact that the Indians used peace pipes. He said that those of a red color were most esteemed and that their use among the savages had the same effect that the flag of friendship had among the whites. Neither Father Hennepin nor Baron LaHonton mentioned the locality from which the material of the red pipes came, but there can be no question it was from the red pipestone quarry.

A little later we find definite mention of the quarry. In 1700 Pierre Charles LeSueur ascended the Minnesota river, and in the account of his explorations he states that he heard of a tribe of Indians called Hinahantons who were said to inhabit the region of the red pipestone quarry, and of a village of the Dakotas located at the quarries. On the map of the expedition, made by William DeLisle in 1703, the quarry has no place. We receive further evidence of the revered spot in 1766. Jonathan Carver ascended the Minnesota river that year and spent seven months during the winter of 1766-67 at the mouth of the Waraji, or Cottonwood river, near the present city of New Ulm. In his writings Carver said: "Near the branch which is termed the Marble river is a mountain, from which the Indians get a sort of red stone, out of which they hew the bowls of their pipes."

That Indians not only visited the quarries for the purpose of securing the stone for their pipes, but that in ages past they had their permanent homes there, seems to be an established fact, although when white men first visited the site in the first half of the last century there was no village at the quarries. In the writings of George Catlin, who is supposed to have been the first white man at the quarries and who visited the site in 1837, is a reference to "graves, mounds and ancient

fortifications that lie in sight." Joseph N. Nicollet, who was at the quarry the following year, spoke of finding nearby, to the east, two large, circular enclosures or breastworks, about two thousand feet in circumference, with walls then remaining large enough to protect bodies on the inside from enemies on the outside. He stated that the main entrances to these enclosures were then still marked enough to show where the principal personages had their lodges or dwellings. After settlers located in Pipestone county, in the spring of 1878, one of these works mentioned by Nicollet was found and examined by C. H. Bennett and D. E. Sweet, who also discovered many evidences in the vicinity which led them to believe that the Indians formerly had their homes near the quarries. Mr. Bennett wrote in 1878:

Among other things which attracted my attention were hundreds upon hundreds of places within a mile of here of circular form, surrounded by stones of from six inches to two feet in diameter, some of which were sunken in the ground so as to be scarcely visible, all indicating unmistakably that some time in the years or centuries gone by, they were the habitations of Indians, and that they constituted villages of considerable size.

Much is left to conjecture concerning the early claims to the quarries. If the complete history of the Pipestone quarry were known, what stories of wonderful struggles for its possession might be written! Indian tradition is filled with accounts of battles and campaigns that took place to secure it for the different nations, but so interwoven with legend are the tales as to be wholly unreliable. But there are evidences of these conflicts that are reliable—the battle fields. There are many places in Pipestone county indicating sites of Indian battles. Besides those mentioned as having been found at the quarry by Catlin and Nicollet, there was a battle field two miles eastward of the present

site of Pipestone,² and several in Osborne township. On the northwest quarter of section 34, Osborne, were found the outlines of old earthworks, semi-circular in shape, of a size sufficient to hold 3000 men. Nearby were piles of stone, indicating Indian graves, play grounds and trails. There may yet be found on the place arrowheads and stone hammers. Concerning some of the battle fields of Osborne township Major D. E. Runals has written as follows:

The evidence still visible of pits, earthworks, arrowheads, stone hammers, etc., near the junction of the Chanarambie and Rock creeks, at the head of the Rock river in Osborne township, indicates that it has been the scene of many fiercely fought battles between different tribes of aborigines.

On the southeast quarter of section 33, on a small plateau near the mouth of a ravine on the left bank of the river, is a series of pits, nearly connected, in the form of a circle; there has not been any perceptible change in them since the settlement of the country.

On the northwest quarter of section 34, on the highest plateau on the north side of a large ravine, can be seen a long, nearly obliterated, line of breastworks in a modified form, facing the northwest toward the valley. I had traveled over the ground many times, thinking it was an old trail of the buffalo, elk, deer and antelope passing over from the Chanarambie to the Rock valley, until one day in crossing it I noticed the pebbles were above the supposed trail, which struck me as being entirely out of the usual order of things, and at once began an investigation which resulted in the discovery of earthworks of a date so long ago that no reliable data can be given of their construction.

Signal mound, situated on the northeast quarter of section 24, is believed to be the third highest point of land in the state. It is easily reached from the south, but on the north it is precipitous to the Chanarambie and the valley below. When first settled by H. O. Gates there was conclusive evidence that it had been a great place of rendezvous for the Indians. Beds of ashes and bits of charred wood were to be seen all around about, as well as the decaying bones of the buffalo, deer, etc. Chippings of flint and

partly-made arrowheads, with specimens of pipestone, could be picked up on either hand. From this mound one can have a most magnificent view of the whole surrounding country and valleys below.

After many fierce struggles for the possession of the sacred Pipestone quarry, a truce seems to have been declared, and for a long period of time all the Indian nations held it in common. When the poet Longfellow let his imagination see Gitche Manitou, the mighty, standing on the red crags of the quarry, calling the tribes of men together, he was not entirely visionary. But in time the powerful Sioux tribe drove out the other nations and laid claim to the quarry, successfully defending their claim. When the first white men visited the spot they found the Sisseton branch of the Sioux in possession. Later, by what right is unknown, the Yankton Indians, whose lands were to the west of the Big Sioux river, laid claim to the exclusive right to quarry the red pipestone, and their claims were recognized by treaty with the United States government in 1858.

In substantiation of the statement that the quarry was in the past neutral territory, I quote at length from the writings of George Catlin (North American Indians, volume two), who emphatically states that such was the case. George Catlin, than whom there is no better authority on the North American Indians, was the first white man to visit the quarries and wrote the following while on his visit there in 1837:

I had long ago heard many curious descriptions of this spot given by the Indians, and had contracted the most impatient desire to visit it. It will be seen by some of the traditions inserted in this letter, from my notes taken on the upper Mississippi

²Charles H. Bennett had a long interview and talk with old Strike-the-Ree, head chief of the Yanktons, and Fat Mandan, one of the sub-chiefs, one day last week, and through the interpreter, Charles Eastman, gleaned a number of interesting facts concerning their lives and points of interest pertaining to the quarry. It was learned that the old line of breastworks,

two miles east of town, was built about ninety or one hundred years ago by the Sissetons, who at that time were at war with the Omahas, who then claimed the quarry, one of the causes of the war being a strife for the possession of the quarry."—Pipestone County Star, July 24, 1879.



AT THE PIPESTONE QUARRY

four years since, that those tribes have visited this place freely in former times; and that it has once been held and owned in common, as neutral ground, amongst the different tribes, who met here to renew their pipes under some superstition which stayed the tomahawk of natural foes, always raised in deadly hate and vengeance in other places. It will be seen, also, that within a few years past (and that, probably by the instigation of the whites, who have told them that by keeping off other tribes and manufacturing the pipes themselves, and trading them to other adjoining nations, they can acquire much influence and wealth) the Sioux have laid entire claim to the quarry; and as it is in the center of their country, and they are more powerful than any other tribes, they are able to successfully prevent any access to it.

That this place should have been visited for centuries past by all the neighboring tribes, who have hidden the war-club as they approached it and stayed the cruelties of the scalping-knife, under the fear of the vengeance of the Great Spirit, who overlooks it, will not seem strange or unnatural when their religion and superstitions are known.

That such has been the custom, there is not a shadow of doubt; and that even so recently as to have been witnessed by hundreds and thousands of Indians of different tribes now living, and from many of whom I have personally drawn the information, some of which will be set forth in the following traditions; and as additional (and still more conclusive) evidence of the position, here are to be seen (and will continue to be seen for ages to come the totems and arms of the different tribes who have visited this place for ages past, deeply engraved on the quartz rocks, where they are to be recognized in a moment (and not to be denied) by the passing traveler who has been among these tribes and acquired even only a partial knowledge of them and their respective modes.

I am aware that this interesting fact may be opposed by subsequent travelers, who will find nobody but the Sioux upon the ground, who now claim exclusive right to it; and for the satisfaction of those who doubt, I refer them to the Lewis and Clark tour thirty-three years since, before the influence of traders had deranged the system and truth of things in these regions. I have often conversed with General Clark, of St.

Louis, on this subject, and he told me explicitly, and authorized me to say it to the world, that every tribe on the Missouri told him they had been to this place, and that the Great Spirit kept the peace amongst his red children on that ground where they smoked with their enemies.

The thousands of inscriptions and paintings on the rocks at this place, as well as the ancient diggings for the pipestone, will afford amusement for the world who will visit it, without furnishing the least data, I should think, of the time at which these excavations commenced, or of a period at which the Sioux assumed the exclusive right to it.

To one who knows the Indian's customs, superstitions and beliefs, it does not appear strange that the Pipestone quarry should be vested with all manner of legends. Here was one spot held in reverence by all the nations. The blood-red stone, the large granite boulders, every tree and shrub even, became an object of veneration. Here for centuries past the warlike tribes had gathered and smoked the calumet and dug the pipestone in peace, some of the excavations being so old that no one has an idea of their age. Here the prairies had been dotted with thousands of wigwams, and tens of thousands of savages had visited the site since first the flight of years began. Relics of camps are indicated by stones placed in circles, laid so long ago that the slow accumulations of centuries have almost buried them beneath the surface. This was the aborigine's religious, social and political center of the universe, and his legends concerning it are wonderful and numerous. Here, in the most remarkable manner, was born the Indian race. Here, too, happened the mysterious birth of the red pipe.³

³Regarding the creation of the world and man the traditions are far from uniform. The following was current among the Sioux of the upper Missouri and was reported by George Catlin:

"Before the creation of man, the Great Spirit (whose tracks are yet to be seen on the stones at the quarry, in the form of tracks of a large bird) used to slay the buffalo and eat them on the ledge of the red rocks, on the top of the Coteau des Prairies, and their blood, running on to the rocks, turned them red. One day

when a large snake had crawled into the nest of the bird to eat her eggs, one of the eggs hatched out in a clap of thunder, and the Great Spirit, catching hold of a piece of the pipestone to throw at the snake, moulded it into a man. This man's feet grew fast in the ground, where he stood for many ages, like a great tree, and therefore he grew very old; he was older than a hundred men at the present day; and at last another tree grew up by the side of him, when a large snake ate them both off at the roots, and they wandered off

Indian tradition is not history, and not until the nineteenth century does the white man's knowledge of the quarries and Pipestone county begin.⁴ We have learned that prior to that century a few explorers and voyageurs had visited the Minnesota river, but none had ventured so far from the broken paths as Pipestone county, so far as any records show. In 1823 a sci-

entific expedition under the command of Major Stephen H. Long, of the United States army, passed up the Minnesota river, but its investigations did not extend to the quarry or to Pipestone county. A valuable report of the expedition, written chiefly by the party's geologist, Prof. William H. Keating, was published in 1825. It contained the earliest definite descrip-

tion of the quarry and its contents. It was upon this spot; that the pipe he had made from it was the symbol of peace; that although they should be at war, they must ever after meet upon this ground in peace and as friends, for it belonged to them all; they must make their calumets from the soft stone and smoke them in their councils and whenever they wished to appease him or obtain his favor. Having said this, he disappeared in the cloud which the last whiff of the pipe had caused, when a great fire rushed over the surface and melted the rocks, and at the same time two squaws passed through the fire to their places beneath the two medicine rocks, where they remain to this day as guardian spirits of the place and must be propitiated by any one wishing to obtain the pipestone before it can be taken away."

Another very interesting legend in which the Pipestone quarry figures was told George Catlin in 1823 by a distinguished *Kuisteneaux* on the upper Missouri. The Indian told of having visited the quarry and described the place. He said:

"In the time of a great freshet, which took place many centuries ago and destroyed all the nations of the earth, all the tribes of the red men assembled on the *Coteau des Prairies* to get out of the way of the waters. After they had all gathered here from all parts, the waters continued to rise until at length it covered them all in a mass, and their flesh was converted into red pipestone. Therefore, it has always been considered neutral ground; it belonged to all tribes alike, and all were allowed to get it and smoke it together. While they were all drowning in a mass a young woman, *K-wap-tah-w* (a virgin), caught hold of the foot of a very large bird that was flying over and was carried to the top of a high cliff, not far off, that was above the water. Here she had twins, and their father was the war eagle, and her children have since peopled the earth. The pipestone, which is the flesh of their ancestors, is smoked by them as the symbol of peace, and the eagle's quill decorates the head of the brave."

"Near this spot, also, on a high mound, is the Thunder's nest (*mid-du-Tonnere*), where a very small bird sits upon her eggs during fair weather, and the skies are rent with the bolts of thunder at the approach of a storm, which is occasioned by the hatching of her brood! This bird is eternal and incapable of reproducing her own species; she has often been seen by the medicine-men and is about as large as the end of the little finger. Her mate is a serpent, whose fiery tongue destroys the young ones as they are hatched and the fiery noise darts through the skies."

Another version of this legend is published in Mrs. Abbie Gardner-Sharp's "History of the Spirit Lake Massacre." When a girl Miss Gardner was taken prisoner by the Sioux and was with the Indians several months during which time they visited the Pipestone quarry. She had an excellent opportunity to learn the legends of the Indians, but her version, which follows, is largely in the language of Catlin, who ascribed the legend to the Sioux who resided in the vicinity of the quarry and on the upper Mississippi:

"Many years ago the Great Spirit, whose tracks in the form of those of a large bird are yet to be seen upon the rocks, descending from the heavens, stood upon the cliff at the Red Pipestone. A stream issued from beneath his feet, which, falling down the cliff, passed away in the plain below, while near him, on an elevation, was the Thunder's nest in which a small bird still sits upon her eggs, the hatching of every one of which causes a clap of thunder. He broke a piece from the ledge and formed it into a huge pipe and smoked it, the smoke rising in a vast cloud so high that it could be seen throughout the earth and became the signal to all the tribes of men to assemble at the spot from whence it issued and listen to the words of the Great Spirit. They came in vast numbers and filled the plain below him. He blew the smoke over them all and told them that the stone was human flesh, the flesh of their ancestors, who were created

together; from these have sprung all the people that now inhabit the earth."

upon this spot; that the pipe he had made from it was the symbol of peace; that although they should be at war, they must ever after meet upon this ground in peace and as friends, for it belonged to them all; they must make their calumets from the soft stone and smoke them in their councils and whenever they wished to appease him or obtain his favor. Having said this, he disappeared in the cloud which the last whiff of the pipe had caused, when a great fire rushed over the surface and melted the rocks, and at the same time two squaws passed through the fire to their places beneath the two medicine rocks, where they remain to this day as guardian spirits of the place and must be propitiated by any one wishing to obtain the pipestone before it can be taken away."

"The 'Three Maidens,' the great granite boulders which lie close to the quarry and which are to this day worshipped by the Indians, have been made the scene of an interesting story by the Indians. According to them, many centuries ago all the Indian tribes of the earth assembled in the valley of the pipestone and engaged in deadly conflict to avenge the supposed wrongs in their respective tribes. The battle lasted many days, and the blood flowing over the valley gave its color to the rocks. Finally there were only two survivors, each a leading Chieftain, of all who composed the Indian race. These brained each other with their tomahawks, and the race would have been extinct had not three Indian maidens hid beneath three huge rocks of the valley and lived to perpetuate their race."

"An interview obtained in 1879 by Charles H. Bennett from Strike-the-Ree, the head chief of the Yanktons, and Fat Mandan, a sub-chief, furnishes a little information of conditions at the quarry in the early years of the nineteenth century. Strike-the-Ree, who was then an old man, said that one of his first recollections as a child was of having been brought to the Pipe-

stone quarry in 1823 by a distinguished *Kuisteneaux* on the upper Missouri. The Indian told of having visited the quarry and described the place. He said:

tion of the Coteau des Prairies, the great elevated prairie country extending from Lake Traverse in a southwesterly direction into Iowa and embracing Pipestone county.⁵ Another explorer and author was in the region in 1835, but did not extend his explorations to Pipestone county. This was George W. Featherstonhaugh, an English geologist, temporarily employed by the United States bureau of topographical engineers. He traveled by canoe up the Minnesota river and ascended the northern part of the Coteau. The geological report of the expedition was published by order of the senate in 1836, and in 1847 Featherstonhaugh issued in London a popular narrative of the journey, entitled "A Canoe Voyage up the Minnaw Sotor."

We now approach the time when the first white man visited the famous Pipestone quarry and first set foot on the soil of Pipestone county. Up to the year 1837 there is no record of any white man having had the courage to venture upon the sacred spot. The country was overrun with the savage Sioux, who guarded zealously the place where they believed their race originated. The Sioux at this time

maintained the exclusive right to the quarry and received handsome revenues from traffic in the sacred stone with the other Indian tribes; they regarded with enmity any of the explorers who even hinted at a visit, and all the early travelers gave the spot a wide berth. The first white man of record to enter Pipestone county was George Catlin.⁶

George Catlin was the greatest Indian delineator of the country. Prior to his visit to the Pipestone quarry he had been among almost every tribe of aborigines in America. In almost every country he had found the red pipes and heard descriptions and legends of the country from which the red material came. He formed an irresistible determination to visit the spot from which it came. When at Fort Snelling in 1835 on one of his tours to the northwest, he laid plans for a trip to the quarry, but hearing of the government expedition under Mr. Featherstonhaugh to explore the Coteau des Prairies, he abandoned the project. Learning subsequently that that gentleman did not visit the quarry, in 1837 he made the trip from New York city, "a distance of 2400 miles, for which purpose I devoted eight

stone quarry by his father, who then lived with the Yanktons on the upper Jim river, in Dakota. A few years later the tribe moved to near the mouth of Jim river where it empties into the Missouri river. About the year 1819 five hundred lodges or families of the Yanktons visited the quarry and spent three months digging pipestone, which was a tedious job with only the stone implements they had. The old chief said that during this visit he was married to the first of his four wives with much pomp and ceremony. Fat Mandan was a boy five years old, but stated that he remembered the visit distinctly. He said that his grandfather frequently spent the winters at the quarry and that there was a large grove there and that the edge of the cliff was much more regular and sharp and seemed higher than at the time of the interview.

⁵This elevated stretch of country, forming the watershed between the Minnesota and Missouri river systems, was the wonder of all the early explorers. It was referred to by the very earliest white men to Minnesota, being discernible for great distances, and was named by the French voyageurs and fur traders of the preceding century. The Pipestone quarries are situated on the highest point of the divide. The Coteau was sometimes called a mountain, and Longfellow's "On the mountains of the prairie" was derived from the descriptions of the explorers.

⁶Concerning the possibility that white men might have been at the quarry before Catlin, Hon. Warren Upham, secretary of the Minnesota Historical society, in a paper on the early explorations at the Pipestone quarry, said: ". . . During the next hundred years of extension of the fur trade by the French throughout the northwest, previous to the cession of New France to England in 1763, doubtless some of the adventurous traders, crossing the great prairie region with roving bands of Indians, saw their quarrying of the pipestone; but I am unable to cite any record of white explorers coming to this place until a considerably more recent time, about seventy years ago."

General H. H. Sibley, in a letter to the Minnesota territorial legislature, written in September, 1849, objected to the name catlinite for the red pipestone, because it was apparently given in honor of George Catlin on the assumption that he was the first man who had visited the region. An extract from Mr. Sibley's letter is as follows: ". . . whereas it is notorious that many whites had been there and examined the quarry long before he came to the country. This designation, therefore, is clearly improper and unjust. The Sioux term for the stone is E-van-shah, by which I conceive it should be known and classified." Mr. Sibley did not name an earlier visitor to the quarry, and I have never heard one named.

months, traveling at considerable expense, and for part of the way with much fatigue and exhaustion." Of the thousands who have visited the sacred land of the Indians, the first was so much interested in the spot that he traveled half way

across the continent, the journey being attended not only "with much fatigue and exhaustion," but also with the danger of having his scalp lifted on several occasions.

CHAPTER XVIII.

EXPLORATION—1837-1872.

GEORGE Catlin organized his expedition at the falls of St. Anthony and set out on horseback, following the usual route up the Minnesota river on the south side. He was accompanied only by Robert Serril Wood, "a young gentleman from England of fine taste and education," and an Indian guide, O-kup-kee by name. At Traverse des Sioux, near the present site of St. Peter, Mr. Catlin and his companion halted at the cabin of an Indian trader, and there received the first warning of trouble from the Indians. The incident is related by Mr. Catlin:¹

On our way to this place, my English companion and myself were arrested by a rascally band of the Sioux and held in durance vile for having dared to approach the sacred fountain of the pipe! While we had halted at the trading-hut of LeBlanc, at a place called Traverse des Sioux, on the St. Peters [Minnesota] river, and about 150 miles from the Red Pipe, a murky cloud of dark visaged warriors and braves commenced gathering around the house, closing and cramming all its avenues, when one began his agitated and insulting harangue to us, announcing to us in the preamble that we were prisoners and could not go ahead. About twenty of them spoke in turn, and we were doomed to sit nearly the whole afternoon, without being allowed to speak a word in our behalf, until they had all got through. We were compelled to keep our seats like culprits and hold our tongues until all had brandished their fists in our faces and vented all the threats and invective which could flow from Indian malice, grounded on

the presumption that we had come to trespass on their dearest privilege—their religion.

During this scene, the son of Monsr. LeBlanc was standing by, and, seeing this man threatening me so hard by putting his fist near my face, he several times stepped up to him and told him to stand back a respectful distance, or that he would knock him down. After their speaking was done, I made a few remarks, stating that we should go ahead.

LeBlanc told us that these were the most disorderly and treacherous part of the Sioux nation, and that they had repeatedly threatened his life, and that he expected they would take it. He advised us to go back as they ordered; but we heeded not his advice.

There was some allowance to be made and some excuse, surely, for the rashness of these poor fellows, and we felt disposed to pity, rather than resent, though their unpardonable stubbornness excited us almost to desperation. Their superstition was sensibly touched, for we were persisting, in the most pre-emptory terms, in the determination to visit this, their greatest medicine (mystery) place, where, it seems, they had resolved no white man should ever be allowed to go. They took us to be "officers sent by the government to see what this place was worth," etc. "As this red stone was a part of their flesh, it would be sacrilegious for white man to touch or take it away—a hole would be made in their flesh, and the blood could never be made to stop running." My companion and myself were here in a fix, one that demanded the use of every energy we had about us; astounded at so unexpected a rebuff, and more than ever excited to go ahead and see what was to be seen at this strange place, in this emergency we mutually agreed to go forward, even if it should be at the hazard of our lives.

¹See "North American Indians," volume two, by George Catlin.

The determined men saddled their horses and rode off through the midst of the scowling savages, without molestation. They crossed the river at Traverse des Sioux, proceeded in a westerly direction, and crossed the Minnesota to the south bank near the mouth of the Waraju (Cottonwood), close to the present city of New Ulm. Thence they left the river and journeyed "a little north of west" for the Coteau des Prairies. On the journey the explorers passed through several Indian villages, at several of which they were notified that they must go back; but, undaunted, they continued their journey. Catlin states in one place that he traveled one hundred miles or more from the mouth of the Cottonwood, and in another place "for a distance of one hundred and twenty or thirty miles" before reaching the base of the Coteau, when he was still "forty or fifty miles from the Pipestone quarry." In either case he overestimated the distance. He declared this part of his journey was over one of the most beautiful prairie countries in the world.²

At the base of the Coteau, Catlin came upon a trading house of the American Fur company, in charge of Monsieur La Framboise, whom Mr. Catlin referred to as an old acquaintance. This point, said to have been forty or fifty miles from the quarry, was probably in Lyon county, east of the Redwood river.³ From the trading post the intrepid travelers journeyed to the quarry, guided by their Indian. Catlin described the land as a series of swells or terraces, gently rising one above the other. There was not a tree or bush to be seen in any direction, and the ground everywhere was covered with a green turf of

grass, five or six inches high. On the very top of the mound Catlin and Wood found their far-famed quarry. Catlin wrote upon his arrival: ". . . and, having arrived upon this interesting ground, have found it quite equal in interest and beauty to our sanguine expectations, abundantly repaying us for all our trouble in traveling to it."

The first white man in Pipestone county grew eloquent as he viewed the wonders spread out before him. In his charming style, writing on the spot which he had made a journey of 2400 miles to reach, Mr. Catlin described the formations, told of the traditions and legends of the Indians and his adventures on the trip. I quote at length from Mr. Catlin's "North American Indians:—"

My excellent and esteemed fellow-traveler, like a true Englishman, has untiringly stuck by me through all difficulties, passing the countries above mentioned, and also the upper Mississippi, the St. Peters, and the overland route to our present encampment on this splendid plateau of the western world. . . . Thus far have I strolled, within the space of a few weeks, for the purpose of reaching classic ground.

Be not amazed if I have sought, in this distant realm, the Indian Muse, for here she dwells, and here she must be invoked—nor be offended if my narratives from this moment savor or appear like romance.

If I can catch the inspiration, I may sing (or yell) a few epistles from this famed ground before I leave it; or at least I will prose a few of its leading characteristics and mysterious legends. This place is great (not in history, for there is none of it, but) in traditions and stories, of which this western world is full and rich. .

Such are a few of the stories of this far famed land, which of itself, in its beauty and loveliness, without the aid of traditional fame, would be appropriately denominated a paradise. Whether it has been an Indian Eden or not, or whether the thunderbolts of an Indian Jupiter are actually

²"This tract of country, as well as that along the St. Peters [Minnesota] river, is mostly covered with the richest soil and furnishes an abundance of good water, which feeds from a thousand living springs. For many miles we had the Coteau in view in the distance before us, which looked like a blue cloud settling down in the horizon, and we were scarcely sensible of the fact when we had arrived at its base, from the graceful and almost un-

perceptible swells with which it commences its elevation above the country around it."—"North American Indians," by George Catlin.

³A Joseph La Framboise was living in Yellow Medicine county so early as 1835. When the first permanent settlers of Lyon county came in the sixties they bought claims from Joseph and Alexander La Framboise.

forged here, it is nevertheless a place renowned in Indian heraldry and chronicle, as explanatory of many of my anecdotes and traditionary superstitions of Indian history, which I have given, and am giving, to the world.

With my excellent companion, I encamped on, and am writing from, the very rock where "the Great Spirit stood when he consecrated the pipe of peace, by moulding it from the rock, and smoking it over the congregated nations that were assembled about him."

Lifted up on this stately mound, whose top is fanned with air as light to breathe as nitrous oxide gas, and bivouacked on its very ridge (where naught on earth is seen in distance save the thousand treeless, bushless, weedless hills of grass and vivid green, which all around me vanish into the infinity of blue and azure), stretched on our bearskins, my fellow-traveler, Mr. Wood, and myself have lain and contemplated the splendid orrery of the heavens. With sad delight, that shook me with a terror, have I watched the swollen sun showing down (too fast for time) upon the mystic horizon, whose line was lost except as it was marked in blue across the blood-red disc. Thus have we lain night after night (two congenial spirits who could draw pleasure from sublime contemplation) and descanted on our own insignificance; we have closely drawn our buffalo robes about us, talked of the ills of life—of friends we had lost—of projects that had failed—and of the painful steps that we had to retrace to reach our own dear native lands again. We have sighed in the melancholy of twilight, when the busy winds were breathing their last, when the chill of sable night was hovering about us, and naught of noise was heard but the silver tones of the howling wolf and the subterraneous whistle of the busy gophers that were ploughing and vaulting the earth beneath us. Thus have we seen wheeled down in the west the glories of the day, and at the next moment, in the east, beheld her silver majesty jutting up above the horizon, with splendor in her face that seemed again to fill the world with joy and gladness. We have seen here, too, in all its sublimity, the blackening thunder-storm, the lightning's glare, and stood amidst the jarring thunderbolts that tore and broke in awful rage about us, as they rolled over the smooth surface, with naught but empty air to vent their vengeance on. There is a sublime grandeur in these scenes as they are presented here, which must be seen and felt to be understood. There is a majesty in the very ground we tread upon, that inspires with awe and reverence; and he must have the soul of a brute, who could gallop his horse for a whole day over swells and terraces of green that rise continually ahead and tantalize (where hills peep over hills, and Alps on Alps arise),

without feeling his bosom swell with awe and admiration, and himself, as well as his thoughts, lifted up in sublimity when he rises the last terrace and sweeps his eye over the wide-spread blue and pictured infinity that lies around and about him.

Man feels here, and startles at the thrilling sensation, the force of illimitable freedom—his body and his mind both seem to have entered a new element, the former as free as the very wind it inhales, and the other as expanded and infinite as the boundless imagery that is spread in distance around him. Such is (and it is feebly told) the Coteau des Prairies. The rock on which I sit to write is the summit of a precipice thirty feet high, extending two miles in length, and much of the way polished, as if a liquid glazing had been poured over its surface. Not far from us, in the solid rock, are the deep-impressed "footsteps of the Great Spirit (in the form of a track of a large bird), where he formerly stood when the blood of buffaloes that he was devouring ran into the rocks and turned them red." At a few yards from us leaps a beautiful little stream, from the top of the precipice into a deep basin below. Here, amid rocks of loveliest hues but wildest contour, is seen the poor Indian performing ablution; and at a little distance beyond, on the plain, at the base of five huge granite boulders, he is humbly propitiating the guardian spirits of the place by sacrifices of tobacco, entreating for permission to take away a small piece of the red stone for a pipe. Farther along and over an extended plain, are seen, like gopher hills, their excavations—ancient and recent,—and on the surface of the rocks, various marks and their sculptured hieroglyphics—their wakens, totems and medicines—subjects numerous and interesting for the antiquary or the merely curious. Graves, mounds and ancient fortifications that lie in sight, the pyramid or leaping rock, and its legends, together with traditions, novel and numerous, and a description, geographical and geological, of this strange place, have all been subjects that have passed rapidly through my contemplation, to be given in future epistles.

The medicine (or leaping rock) is a part of the precipice which has become severed from the main part, standing about seven or eight feet from the wall, just equal in height, and about seven feet in diameter. It stands like an immense column of thirty-five feet high, and is highly polished on its top and sides. It requires a daring effort to leap on its top from the main wall and back again, and many a heart has sighed for the honor of the feat without daring to make the attempt. Some few, have tried it with success and left their arrows standing in the crevice, several of which are seen there at this time; others have leaped the chasm and fallen from its slippery surface, on which they could not hold, and

suffered instant death on the craggy rocks below. Every young man in the nation is ambitious to perform this feat, and those who have successfully done it are allowed to boast of it all their lives. In the sketch already exhibited there will be seen a view of the leaping rock, and in the middle of the picture, a mound, of conical form, of ten foot height, which was erected over the body of a distinguished young man who was killed by making the daring effort about two years before I was there, and whose sad fate was related to me by a Sioux chief, who was father of the young man and was visiting at the Red Pipestone quarry, with thirty others of his tribe, when we were there, and cried over the grave as he related the story, to Mr. Wood and myself, of his son's death.

Catlin pursued his operations solely because of love of discovery, travel and adventure, and paid his own expenses. He was best known as an Indian delineator, but he also devoted some of his energies to historical research and geological description. At the Pipestone quarry and at other places on the Coteau he collected samples of the rock, most of which he was obliged to throw away before he again reached civilization. He carried with him a sample of pipestone and took measures to have it subjected to chemical examination. Such examination was made by Dr. C. T. Jackson, of Boston, who gave the substance the mineralogical name of catlinite, after the first man to visit the quarry.

The next white men to penetrate to Pipestone county were a party of explorers in the government employ, who visited the quarry in July, 1838. In the party were six men under command of Joseph Nicolas Nicollet, with John C. Fremont second in command.⁴ Nicollet and Fremont traveled from Washington to St. Louis and thence up the Mississippi river to H. H. Sibley's trading post, near the mouth of the Minnesota river. Thence

they journeyed over the general route of travel up the south side of St. Peters or Minnesota river, crossing at Traverse des Sioux. They proceeded west across the "ox-bow," stopping at Big Swan lake in Nicollet county, and crossed the Minnesota again at the mouth of the Waraju (Cottonwood). They proceeded up the valley of the Cottonwood, on the north side of the river, to a point near the present site of Lamberton, and then crossed to the south side of the river and struck across country to Lake Shetek, in Murray county. They went around the north side of that lake, passed between Bear lakes and thence west and a little south to the quarry.⁵

Nicollet described the elevated plateau, of which Pipestone county forms a part, in some detail. "Whatever people may fix their abode in this region must," wrote the explorer, "necessarily, become agriculturists and shepherds, drawing all their resources from the soil. They must not only raise the usual agricultural products for feeding, as is now but too generally done in some parts of the west, but they will have to turn their attention to other rural occupations, such as tending sheep for their wool, which would greatly add to their resources, as well as finally bring about a more extended application of the industrial arts among them."

The commander of the little expedition wrote as follows of the arrival at the quarry and of his impressions of the abode of the Great Spirit:

The Indians of all the surrounding nations make a regular pilgrimage to it, unless prevented by their wars and dissensions. The quarry is on the lands of the Sisseton tribe of Sioux.

The idea of the young Indians, who are very fond of the marvelous, is that it has

tions extended to all parts of southwestern Minnesota.

⁵On Nicollet's map, which appears in this volume, the route to the quarry is designated by a very fine, dotted line, which, however, can be quite plainly traced.

⁴From 1836 to 1843 Nicollet, most of the time assisted by Fremont, prosecuted a geographical survey of the upper Mississippi country. He explored nearly all portions of Minnesota and many other parts of the country theretofore unvisited. He discovered and named many lakes, creeks and other physical features, and the map he made was of inestimable value. His opera-

been opened by the Great Spirit, and that whenever it is visited by them, they are saluted by lightning and thunder. We may site as a coincidence our own experience in confirmation of this tradition. Short of half a mile from the valley, we were met by a severe thunder storm, during which the wind blew with so much force as to threaten the overthrowing of Mr. Renville's wagon, and we were obliged to stop for a few minutes during the short descent into the valley.

If this mode of reception was at first to be interpreted as an indication of anger on the part of the Great Spirit for our intrusion, we may add that he was soon reconciled to our presence; for the sun soon after made his appearance, drying both the valley and our baggage. The rest of the day was spent in pitching our tent on the supposed consecrated ground and in admiring the beautiful effects of lights and shadows produced by the western sun as it illumined the several parts of the bluff, composed of red rock of different shades, extending a league in length and presenting the appearance of the ruins of some ancient city built of marble and porphyry. The night was calm and temperate, of which we took advantage to make astronomical observations.

Nicollet and party remained at the quarry three days. Indians were present at the time and the whites assisted them in opening a new quarry, blasting the rock with gunpowder.⁶ On a slab of the red quartzite near the leaping rock, the members of the party carved their initials and the date. The carving, which is distinct to this day, was made in the following form:

J. N. NICOLLET	
C. F.	
C. A. G.	
J. L.	
J. E. F.	
J. R.	
	EXPEDITION
	JULY
	38

⁶Nicollet stated that it was a rule among the Sissetons to go through a three days' purification by offering prayers and sacrifices to the Great Spirit before digging the precious stone, and if, perchance, in digging, one of them found an inferior piece he lost caste with the others and was obliged to withdraw in disgrace and let the honor of digging fall upon one more worthy.

⁷In a letter to Charles H. Bennett, dated September 3, 1885, General Fremont wrote:

"I had hoped to disinter some data which

The C. F. was for John C. Fremont, who at that period signed his name Charles Fremont;⁷ the C. A. G. was for Charles A. Geyer, the botanist of the expedition; whom the J. L. represents I am unable to state; the J. E. F. was for J. Eugene Flandin; and the J. R. for James Renville.

After departing from the quarry the expedition explored the adjacent country. On the map made a few years later, several features of Pipestone county have a place. The Inyan Reakah, or River of the Rock, is quite accurately located, as is also Hidden Wood creek, or Tchan-Narambe (Chanarambie) creek. Red Pipestone creek is made to rise a short distance east of the quarry, flow in a southwesterly direction and empty into the Tchan-Kasndata (Big Sioux) river. A stream, labeled Coteau Perce creek, having its source near Lake Benton, is also shown as flowing through Pipestone county in a southwesterly direction to the Big Sioux. Nicollet and his party visited and named Lake Benton and then proceeded westward into Dakota, visiting and naming Lakes Preston (for Senator Preston), Poinsett (for J. R. Poinsett, secretary of war), Abert, Thompson, Tetonkaha, Kampeska, and Hendricks. The location of each of these places was determined by celestial observations, and the elevation of each place was obtained. Before returning to civilization Nicollet visited Big Stone Lake and other places to the north. He returned to the falls of St. Anthony by way of the Renville camp on the Lac qui Parle.

might throw some light upon the obscurity of now nearly half a century ago. But fire and frequent change of residence have made havoc among my papers, and I can only give you the meager outline which memory retains of those journeys. The hut [at Lake Benton] you mention was not ours. We passed no winter there. Our campaigns were summer ones, and the green of the prairies and the herds of buffalo are leading features which remain in my mind. We made a camp at the Red Pipestone quarry and met there a band of Sioux Indians. I wonder if chimney rock, which stood in front

The next record we have of white men in Pipestone county is in 1844. That year a government expedition under Captain J. Allen, operating chiefly to chart the Des Moines river and other streams, proceeded up the Des Moines and entered Minnesota in Jackson county. The course was through Jackson, Cottonwood and Murray counties. Captain Allen found that Lake Shetek was the source of the Des Moines river, and with that lake as temporary headquarters he explored the country in several directions. He then set out for the west, passing through Pipestone county, and proceeded down the Big Sioux river to its mouth. Apparently, he missed the Pipestone quarry, but he described the country, and wrote in regard to the big game he encountered on the trip through Pipestone county:

Twenty-five miles west of the source of the Des Moines (Lake Shetek) we struck the range of the buffalo and continued in it to the Big Sioux river and down that river about eighty-six miles. . . . We found antelope in the same range with the buffalo, but no elk, and very seldom a common deer. While among the buffalo we killed as many as we wanted, and without trouble.

During the forties and fifties the Pipestone quarry was visited infrequently by white men. Trading posts and settlements were established in many parts of the frontier; trappers and hunters pushed out to many out-of-the-way places in plying their trade; traders with the Indians frequently went far from the civilized portions of the country; missionaries occasionally made pilgrimages to the Indian villages. There can be no doubt that frontiersmen of this class at times traversed Pipestone county and were at the famous

quarry. Unfortunately, these people seldom left records of their adventures, and so it is that we know of only a few such.

Rev. Augustus Ravoux, attended by a single white man, accompanied a party of Sioux in 1845 on an extended journey through the western wilderness. He visited Redwood, the Pipestone quarry, Vermillion and Fort Pierre, returning to Dubuque by way of Des Moines. He reported the country which later became southwestern Minnesota as swarming with buffalo and dusky red men.⁸

In 1853 Judge Swan, who later became a prominent citizen of Sioux City, Iowa, passed through Pipestone county while on a hunting expedition. He was with a party of Indians, who were enroute from Lake Shetek to the Dakota country. His camp was made one night on the site now occupied by the government school at Pipestone.⁹

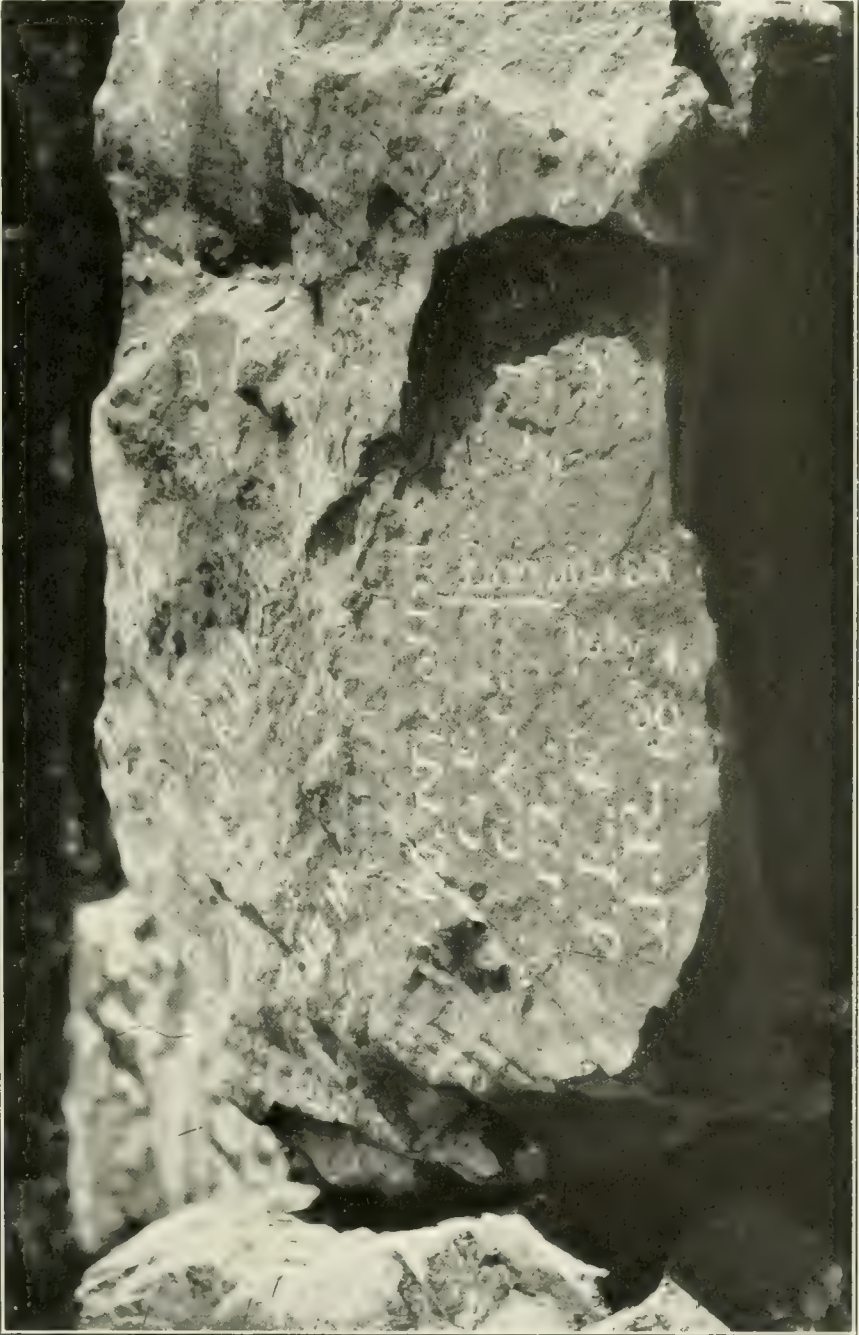
The next recorded visit of white people to Pipestone county was in April, 1857, when Miss Abbie Gardner, Mrs. Margaret Marble, Mrs. Lydia Noble and Mrs. Elizabeth Thatcher passed through as prisoners of an outlaw Indian, Inkpaduta, and a renegade band of Sioux Indians. These women had been taken prisoners a few weeks before at Okoboji lakes, Iowa, in the butchery commonly called the Spirit Lake massacre, perpetrated by the bloodthirsty Inkpaduta. The flight of the Indians with their captives was by way of the quarry. They spent one day there,¹⁰ and then proceeded westward to the Big Sioux river, coming to that stream at about the point where now stands the city of Flandreau. They had then been on the

⁸Interview with Judge Swan in Pipestone County Star, January 19, 1894.

of the escarpment, is still standing. It required a sure foot to jump from the main rock to the top of it. The two sets of initials inscribed to which you particularly refer are for Charles Fremont, as I then commonly wrote my name, and J. Eugene Flandlin, a young gentleman from New York, who was attached to the party. The names of Lakes Jessie and Benton were given by me, and were for my wife and her father, Senator Benton."

¹⁰"Our captors rested themselves here for about a day, in which time they were engaged in the delightful task of gathering the pipestone and shaping it into pipes, which were formed in the manner foretold ages ago."—Mrs. Abbie Gardner-Sharp in "History of the Spirit Lake Massacre."

⁹Rock County Herald, December 7, 1877.



THE NICOLLET INSCRIPTION

Carved in the Rocks at the Pipestone Quarry in July, 1838.

march for six weeks, over a trackless prairie, through deep snow, across creeks, rivers, sloughs and lakes.¹¹

At this interesting period in history, at a time when only a few explorers and adventurers had had the hardihood to penetrate the wilds of the county, when women captives were held with impunity by the degenerate Sioux where later was builded the city of Pipestone, when there was not a white settler within many long miles, Pipestone county was created by legislative act. It was entitled to a place on the map of Minnesota for the first time May 23, 1857, when the bill creating it was approved by the territorial governor. So little did the lawmakers know of southwestern Minnesota at that time that they named the county Rock and the one to the south of it Pipestone.¹² Its original dimensions were twenty-four miles north and south by thirty miles east and west, and within its limits were the site of the present city of Flandreau, South Dakota, and the big bend in the Big Sioux river, north of that city.¹³ No provision was made for the organization of the county, its boundaries were not even surveyed, and for many years its territory remained the same wild country it had always been. Anticipating the time when the country should have inhabitants, the lawmakers inserted a clause in the original bill to the effect that Rock (read Pipestone)

county should be attached to Murray county for judicial and election purposes.

An event that proved of great future importance to Pipestone county was a treaty with the Yankton Indians in 1858, by which that branch of the Sioux nation was guaranteed by the United States government the unrestricted use of the Pipestone quarry for the digging of pipestone to make their pipes, etc. It is a matter of doubt by what right the Yanktons laid claim to the quarry and by what process of reasoning the government officials reached the determination to grant the band the unrestricted use of the sacred grounds of the Indians. Their lands were entirely west of the Big Sioux river; they had never previously claimed the lands about the quarry, more than a right to quarry the red pipestone; all the lands east of the Big Sioux river had passed into the possession of the government by treaty in 1851, with the Sissetons, who from very early days had held undisputed possession of the quarries and the surrounding lands.¹⁴

At any rate, the Yanktons were shrewd enough to secure the coveted prize before ceding any of their lands. The treaty was concluded at the city of Washington April 19, 1858. Charles E. Mix was the principal representative of the United States, and the Indians were represented by Pa-

¹¹Of the four women captives, Mrs. Thatcher was murdered upon reaching the Big Sioux; Mrs. Noble was murdered some weeks later; Mrs. Marble and Miss Gardner, who was then a girl thirteen years of age, were ransomed after considerable delay. On September 22, 1892, Mrs. Abbie Gardner-Sharp, for the first time since she passed through as a captive, visited the Pipestone quarry. She identified the site of the lodges occupied by the captives of 1857. It was on the reservation, on ground sloping westward from the low jasper ledge, about a quarter of a mile south from the falls. This was the only point on the whole journey which the former captive recognized.

¹²See Rock county history, page 43. The change to the proper names was made by legislative act five years later.

¹³A section of this act was in the following words:

"That so much of the territory of Minnesota

as is embraced in the following boundaries be, and the same is hereby, established as the county of Rock: Beginning at the southeast corner of township one hundred and five north, of range forty-four (44) west; thence north to the northeast corner of township one hundred and eight north, of range forty-four (44) west; thence west to the northwest corner of township one hundred and eight, of range forty-eight (48) west; thence south to the southwest corner of township one hundred and five north, of range forty-eight (48) west; thence east to the place of beginning."

¹⁴The treaty with the Sisseton and Wahpaton bands of Sioux was made in the latter part of July, 1851, at Traverse des Sioux, was ratified by congress the next year, and in February, 1853, was proclaimed in force by President Fillmore. All the lands of southern Minnesota, including those of Pipestone county and the Pipestone quarries, were ceded by the terms of that treaty. See Rock county history, page 39.

da-ni-pa-pa (Strike-the Ree)¹⁵ and other chiefs and delegates. Article eight of the treaty was as follows:

The said Yankton Indians shall be secured in the free and unrestricted use of the red pipestone quarry, or so much thereof as they have been accustomed to frequent and use for the purpose of procuring stone for pipes; and the United States hereby stipulate and agree to cause to be surveyed and marked so much thereof as shall be necessary and proper for that purpose, and retain the same and keep it open and free to the Indians to visit and procure stone for pipes so long as they shall desire.

The treaty was ratified by the senate February 26, 1859, and later in the year the Indian bureau had a reservation at the quarries surveyed, the marks of which were later obliterated.

During the late fifties a few scattered settlements had been made in southwestern

Minnesota, in fact, in all the counties excepting Pipestone—in Lincoln, Murray, Nobles and Rock. Pipestone county alone remained exclusively Indian country. The census of 1860 gave the county no population.¹⁶

By the creation of Dakota territory in 1861, Minnesota's western boundary line was moved eastward to its present location, and part of the original Pipestone county (it was still designated Rock county) was lost to Minnesota. Legislative action was required, and on February 20, 1862, Pipestone county was created anew, with the boundaries it now has, and with the name of Pipestone. The act also authorized the surveying of the boundary lines.¹⁷

¹⁵Strike-the-Ree visited the quarries in July, 1879, at which time the Pipestone County Star said of the old chief of the Yanktons:

"Pa-da-ni-pa-pa, or Old Strike, as he is called, is a man of medium stature, having the appearance of having once been possessed of a mind of superior order. He is rapidly on the decline, and his present feeble state shows that he will ere long be gathered to the Happy Hunting Grounds."

¹⁶In the archives of the census office at Washington is a list of the names of twenty three

persons who were reported living in Pipestone county in 1860. A later census, however, contained the information that these were incorrectly credited to Pipestone county; they belonged to Rock county, which, it will be remembered, was named Pipestone county at the time of its creation in 1857. For a more extended explanation see page 44 of the Rock county history.

¹⁷According to the Minnesota Geological Survey the township and section lines of Pipestone county were run as follows:

TOWNSHIP	TOWNSHIP LINES	SECTION LINES
Osborne	s. Sept. 58 n. e. w. July - Aug. 61	Aug. 67
Burke	July - Aug. 61	Aug. 67
Rock	July - Aug. 61	Aug. - Sept. 67
Aetna	n. Sept. 58 e. s. w. July - Aug. 61	Sept. 67
Elmer	s. w. Sept. 58 n. e. July - Aug. 61	Sept. 67
Gray	w. Sept. 58 n. e. s. July - Aug. 61	Sept. 70
Grange	w. Sept. 58 n. e. s. July - Aug. 61	Sept. 70
Fountain Prairie	n. w. Sept. 58 e. s. July - Aug. 61	July 71
105-46	e. Sept. 58 s. Sept. 61 n. Sept. 70 w. July 71	July 71
106-46	e. Sept. 58 n. w. s. Sept. 70	Sept. - Oct. 70
107-46	e. Sept. 58 n. w. s. Sept. 70	Oct. 70
108-45	e. Sept. 58 n. Sept. 61 s. Sept. 70 w. July 71	July 71
105-47	w. July 59 s. Sept. 61 n. Sept. 70 e. July 71	July 71
106-47	w. July 59 n. e. s. Sept. 70	Oct. 70
107-47	w. July 59 n. e. s. Sept. 70	Oct. 70
108-47	w. July 59 n. Sept. 61 s. Sept. 70 e. July 71	July 71

If there had been a belief that there was urgent necessity for the surveying of Pipestone county it was rudely dispelled. Not only did no settlers come, all those at the time residing in western Minnesota fled for their lives upon the outbreak of the Sioux war late in the summer of 1862. Pipestone county was as destitute of white people as it had been when Gitche Manitou fashioned the first peace-pipe. When the white settlers of Minnesota rallied their forces and undertook to drive the redskins from the state for all time, Pipestone county was again visited, this time by soldiers in pursuit of the red demons. One party of 200 volunteer soldiers camped on the quarries one night in 1862,¹⁸ and possibly others passed through the county.

After peace was obtained and the frontier regions were once more safe, visitors again came to the famous quarries. In October, 1866, Dr. F. V. Hayden was at the quarries for the purpose of examination from a geological standpoint. He published a description of the quarries in the *American Journal of Science and Arts*, January, 1867.¹⁹

Dr. C. A. White made a trip to the famous region in 1868, and in the *American Naturalist* for 1868-69 gave a description of a "trip to the great red Pipestone quarry." Doubtless other people—trappers, traders and curiosity seekers—visited the renowned spot during the late sixties, for its reputation as a place of beauty and the scene of Indian superstition became widely known.

In the summer of 1868 a small party of Sioux City gentlemen visited the quarry and one of their number had an exciting experience with Indians. The party was composed of Mahlon Gore, then editor

and proprietor of the *Sioux City Journal*, now a retired capitalist of Orlando, Florida; Hon. A. W. Hubbard, then congressman from the Eleventh Iowa district; Charles Kent, a Sioux City druggist; and a young man named Tripp, who was employed as cook, teamster and utility man.

The party spent several months on the trip and visited Sioux Falls, Luverne, the Pipestone quarries, Lake Shetek, Graham Lakes, Spirit Lake and intermediate points. They took with them two saddle horses, a light spring wagon hauled by two other horses, a camp outfit hauled by a yoke of oxen, and a cow. They spent two or three days at the quarries, secured several specimens of the stone, and then proceeded to Lake Shetek. Of the events which occurred during this part of the trip Mahlon Gore has written:²⁰

We left Pipestone early in the morning, going in a northeasterly direction, following an old trail made by teams hauling corn and other supplies from the settled portion of Minnesota to the outposts on the Missouri river. We had proceeded some seven or eight miles when we espied a band of five or six elk half a mile ahead of us on the prairie.

Seeking a little depression on the prairie which would partially conceal our wagons and animals, Mr. Kent and I prepared to stalk the game by shedding all superfluous clothing and pocketing some extra cartridges. While we were doing this the judge looked in its accustomed place for our ax. It was not there. A hasty search through the wagons revealed the fact that it had been overlooked and left at our last camping place, at the quarry. Kent instructed Tripp to take his horse and ride back for it while he and I went ahead and killed an elk. We all left the outfit at the same time, and after a couple of hours the hunters succeeded in getting a fine stag. We returned to the wagons to make ready to care for our meat.

As we approached within a quarter of a mile of the outfit we saw Tripp coming from the opposite direction, Kent's horse on a dead run, the rider leaning far forward as the horse did not go fast enough and he seemed to think if he leaned far out in

¹⁸Interview with Judge Swan in Pipestone County Star, January 19, 1894.

¹⁹Prof. James Hall read a paper on the geology of the rocks at the Pipestone quarry be-

fore the American Philosophical society in June, 1866. He did not see the quarry, having proceeded, in 1865, only so far as Lake Shetek.

²⁰In a letter to C. H. Bennett, April 23, 1911.

front he would get there sooner. Kent was very careful of his horse. He also sometimes indulged in language. In this instance he seemed to desire to make Tripp baldheaded. I looked for a scrap when the two should come together. But just then three other persons on horseback rode up to the top of a ridge behind Tripp; we saw a puff of smoke from a gun and saw the dust fly close to Tripp, where the bullet struck the ground; then another and another shot followed. Then the three Indians who were after Tripp evidently saw us, for they wheeled their horses and took the back track.

Wild eyed, Tripp rode into camp and Mr. Kent was considerate enough not to say a word derogatory of Tripp's character, parentage or judgment. Tripp explained that he had secured the ax and had covered about a mile of the return trip when his peace of mind was disturbed by a shot from an Indian on horseback, and from that time until he came in sight of us he had a run for his money. He dropped the ax and could not be persuaded to go back for it.

Our party went on almost a mile, when we came to a creek where we halted, brought in our meat and spent the remainder of the day in caring for it.

"For the purpose of enforcing civil rights and criminal justice" on the frontier, Pipestone county and thirteen other unorganized counties were organized into a judicial district by an act of March 1, 1866, and attached to Brown county.²¹

Surveying parties visited Pipestone county on several occasions from 1867 to 1872. T. B. Walker, a United States surveyor, ran the section lines for a few

of the townships in 1867. The Southern Minnesota Railroad company in 1870 ran a line through the county, passing between the quarries and the site of the city of Pipestone, and established their ten and twenty-mile limits. In 1871 Messrs. Walker and Miller completed the survey of the section lines; Pipestone county was ready for settlers.

The surveyors who ran the section lines of Sweet township neglected to mark the reservation limits on their plat, which became the official map of the land office. On July 15, 1871, August Clauson was permitted to file a claim to land upon which the famous quarries are located, and later he received a government patent to the tract. The Indian's Garden of Eden passed to the ownership of a white man, despite the provisions of the Indian treaty! But only for the time being. Clauson sold the quarries to Herbert M. Carpenter. When the Washington authorities learned the condition of affairs they revoked the patent. The case found its way to the courts, and the Indian's rights were maintained, and have been to this day. In 1872 the boundaries of the reservation, one mile square, were resurveyed and plainly staked.

²¹By legislative acts, Pipestone county was attached for judicial purposes to Watonwan county in 1872, to Cottonwood county in 1873, to

Rock county in 1876, and was formed into a district of itself in 1881.

CHAPTER XIX.

FROM BARBARISM TO BALLOT BOX—1813-1878.

FROM time immemorial Pipestone county was the red man's land.

For centuries it was the rendezvous for all the tribes of the northwest. For nearly two hundred years civilization had known of the existence of the Pipestone quarries and for nearly forty years white men had been in the habit of visiting it on flying trips. But no move had been made looking to its recovery from the wild state that had existed since its creation—if we except the attempt of the wily pre-emptor to obtain title to the famed quarries in 1871. Pipestone was behind all the neighboring counties in receiving settlers. In 1870 settlements had been established on all sides of it; Lyon county was so far developed that the county was organized; in the future Lincoln county were settlers, on Lake Benton and at other points; there were flourishing settlements at Flandreau and Sioux Falls; Rock county had a population of 138 people; Nobles, 117; Murray, 209. Even the great rush of homeseekers of 1872, when all the surrounding territory was rapidly settled and developed, did not bring a single inhabitant to Pipestone county. There was a reason.

The reputation of the quarries as Indian headquarters, the legends and tradi-

tions connected with the spot, the writings of the explorers, the fact that within its boundaries was a reservation, all tended to delay its occupation. The very name of the county suggested Indians, and the pioneers had not yet so completely forgotten the terrible days of 1862 that they cared to take the chances of locating in close proximity to the treacherous Sioux. So, while the newcomers located to the north, south, east and west, the Pipestone county boundary lines were a veritable wall, over which none had the hardihood to climb. Not until 1874 was a human habitation established within the county. Even then, unreasonable fear of the savages and ignorance of the conditions prevailing held in check its settlement, and it was not until the iron horse—that great instrument of civilization—was seen approaching that Pipestone county came into its own.

Not so timid as those who founded homes were the early trappers, and during the sixties and early seventies those nomadic people frequently found their way to the "Indian country." The records they left, however, are meager. Only occasionally do we find evidence of their operations, in the form of ruins of rude

shelters or the bones of some unfortunate one of their class.¹

The plan for bringing about the settlement of the country adjacent to the Pipestone quarry was conceived by, and the first movement toward its execution was made by, C. H. Bennett. For many years previous to his first visit to the quarries, Mr. Bennett, who was engaged in the drug business at LeMars, Iowa, had contemplated a trip to the region, about which he had read, for the purpose of seeing the sights and possibly of securing land for a townsite.² About the middle of September, 1873, Mr. Bennett, accompanied by Frank Flint, then of LeMars, and their wives and a sister of Mr. Bennett, Mrs. Silas B. Wright, and her infant son, set out from the Iowa town for the romantic region. They passed through Sioux Falls and over the site of the present village of Dell Rapids, whence Mr. Bennett piloted the party, over a region of unbroken prairie without road or track, to the quarries, where they arrived about dusk on September 20. The party camped for the night, and the next day inspected the charms of the falls and the rocky formations. Mr. Bennett, after examining many sites in the vicinity, selected the one on which the city of Pipestone now

stands as the most favorable one in proximity to the quarries, deciding that there he should found a city.

Only one day was spent at the quarries, the party returning to LeMars by way of Luverne and the newly founded town of Rock Rapids. In the latter place Mr. Bennett met several acquaintances, who were destined to play a most important part in the future of Pipestone county. They were Daniel E. Sweet, D. C. Whitehead and John Lowry. Mr. Bennett interested them in the new-found land, and Mr. Whitehead stated that for some time he had intended making such a trip.

The casual meeting between Mr. Bennett and the Rock Rapids residents resulted in the earlier settlement of Pipestone county than might otherwise have been the case, the plans of Mr. Bennett being delayed by illness and death of his wife and their infant boy at LeMars that spring. On March 23, 1874, D. C. Whitehead, D. E. Sweet, Job Whitehead and J. F. Eckleston left Rock Rapids for the Pipestone quarries.³ At Luverne they were joined by Mike McCarthy. They encountered severe storms on the way, but spent parts of three days at the quarries, located some of the government stakes, and decided to take up their residences at the

¹In the spring of 1878 the skeleton of a man was found under a steep bank on section 2, Rock township, by Major D. E. Runals, who was guiding a party of land seekers, including Noah Bisby, Charles Bisby, Andrew Henderson and Scott Turner. Apparently the body had lain there for years. Beside the skeleton were found twelve steel traps, a tobacco box and some buttons from a soldier's blouse. In the left side of the skull was a short piece of iron, about one-eighth of an inch in length, which had probably been a nail point inserted by accident years before his death.

It was afterwards learned that the skeleton was that of a member of a family, three of whom met death in the blizzard of 1873. A widow living near Lake Benton lost her husband, son and son-in-law in the blizzard of January, 1873. The husband was found frozen to death in Nobles county on his way to Worthington; the son had been to the timber at Lake Benton for a load of wood, and, returning, was caught in the storm and perished with his ox team; the son-in-law had started for Flandreau to trade his traps for flour and when the storm struck had apparently sought shelter in the lee of the hill where his skeleton was found in 1878.

In 1904 a mail carrier on a Woodstock route found a field-glass which had been embedded

under a three-inch layer of sod. The leather had long since rotted away, and the instrument bore evidence of having lain in its resting place for many long years. It had probably been lost by one of the early explorers.

²Much of the data from which I have compiled the story of the early settlement of Pipestone county is secured from a thorough and reliable account written by C. H. Bennett in 1878 and read by him at a Fourth of July celebration at the quarry that year. This data has been supplemented by numerous interviews with Mr. Bennett and the perusal of numerous public and private documents in his possession, as well as added to from other sources of information.

³"March 23, 1874, started from Rock Rapids with D. C. Whitehead, Job Whitehead and J. F. Eckleston to visit the Pipestone quarry, where we arrived on the twenty-fourth and stayed two nights."—D. E. Sweet's Diary.

"Mr. D. C. Whitehead & Co., of Rock Rapids, Iowa, passed through this place one day this week to Pipestone county. Mr. Whitehead informed us that they intended to establish a mission up there, organize the county and make numerous improvements for the benefit of generations yet unborn."—Rock County Herald (Luverne), March 27, 1874.

romantic and picturesque spot later in the season. They agreed that the site south of the quarries selected by Mr. Bennett was the most favorable one for the location of a townsite. Messrs. Sweet and Lowry again made the trip to Pipestone county April 21,⁴ and Mr. Sweet, who was a surveyor, ran the quarter-section lines of section 12, township 106, range 46 (Sweet township), which was the section selected for the site of the future city of Pipestone.

Upon the return of the party which visited the quarries in March, D. C. Whitehead went to LeMars and concluded negotiations with C. H. Bennett, whereby that gentleman associated himself with the others for the purpose of platting a townsite at the quarries and bringing about the settlement of Pipestone county. The beginning of operations was not long delayed. Early in May, 1874, C. H. Bennett and his brother, O. W. Bennett, went from LeMars to Rock Rapids, and on May 8 they, in company with D. C. Whitehead, Job Whitehead, D. E. Sweet and John Lowry, set out for Pipestone county.⁵ The little caravan, traveling with two ox teams, went by way of Luverne, where each of the Bennett brothers purchased a load of lumber, with which to erect cabins. At Luverne John Gillard was employed to help haul the lumber, and he accompanied the party to Pipestone. All spent the night under the projecting sides of the granite boulders known as the "Three Maidens." The next morning the whole party, excepting C. H. Bennett and John Gillard, set out for New Ulm, where was located the government land office, to

make filing on the claims selected. The claims were all in the vicinity of the quarries. From New Ulm the first Pipestone county homesteaders returned to their Iowa homes.

Upon the morning of the departure of the rest of the party for New Ulm, C. H. Bennett, with the assistance of John Gillard, set to work to erect the first building ever put up in Pipestone county.⁶ The building was a pine shanty, six feet wide, eight feet long and five feet high. It had no windows and only one small door. This pioneer claim shanty was in the exact center of section 12, township 106, range 46, on the present lot fourteen of block twelve, of the original plat of Pipestone City. Otherwise described, it was the northeast corner of the intersection of Hiawatha and Centennial streets, just east of the ruins of the old Calumet hotel. The construction of the house is said to have taken the two men nearly the whole forenoon! They ate dinner in it and then set out for Luverne, Mr. Bennett continuing the journey to LeMars.

The work so far done was preliminary to actual settlement. June 4, 1874, was the first day in history on which a white person could justly lay claim to the honor of being a resident of Pipestone county. At that time D. E. Sweet, his wife and little son, Henry, and John Lowry, by consent of the owner, moved into the Bennett cabin and established the first temporary home in the county. In Mr. Sweet's diary is this modest announcement of the arrival of the first settler: "June 4. Moved to Pipestone with J. Lowry." D. C. Whitehead also came at

⁴"April 27, in company with John Lowry, started for Pipestone, Dell Rapids, etc. Gone one week." D. E. Sweet's Diary.

⁵"D. E. Sweet and party, of Rock Rapids, Iowa, passed through this place on Monday [April 27] for Pipestone county, this state, for the purpose of making a permanent location. Mr. Sweet informs us that twenty families will follow soon."—Rock County Herald, May 1, 1874.

⁶"May 8, started on the third trip and went to New Ulm. Present, D. C. and Job Whitehead, J. Lowry, O. and C. Bennett and self. Gone nine days."—D. E. Sweet's Diary.

⁶"In April, 1874, there was not a soul living in the county, nor a house or other sign that there ever had been, save the spots which marked the camping places of Indians, trappers and tourists as they tarried a few days in their visitation of the quarries."—Pipestone County Star, June 19, 1879.

the same time, assisting Mr. Sweet in hauling lumber from Luverne, but he remained only a short time. Messrs. Sweet and Lowry at once commenced the erection of a house for the former on the present lot one of block twenty-one, original plat (now occupied by Denhart's grocery store on Olive street). Mr. Bennett donated the lumber in his claim shanty, which was torn down and the material used in the new home. On August 1, according to Mr. Sweet's diary, "moved in new house."⁷

During the month of June, while the Sweet family and Mr. Lowry were living in the Bennett cabin, Dr. W. J. Taylor, who later became, and still is, a resident of Pipestone county, came to the quarries accompanied by his brother-in-law, Rev. E. H. Bronson.⁸ The new arrivals made their camp beside the shanty. Dr. Taylor became enamored of the country and determined to make settlement at some future time. He selected as a claim the northwest quarter of section 18, Gray township, adjoining the other claims, and made his filing in August, becoming one of the earliest homesteaders of the county.

Several of those who had filed on claims sent men up to their possessions during the season of 1874 and had breaking done. C. H. Bennett and O. W. Bennett, together, had eighty acres broken on sections 10, 14 and 12, Sweet township, and 32, Troy township.⁹ D. C. Whitehead had ten acres plowed,¹⁰ and D. E. Sweet

the same amount. No grain was sown until the following year. Through the representations of Mr. Sweet, in August, 1874, a postoffice was established at Pipestone with Mr. Sweet as postmaster, and a mail route established from Luverne to the new office, and thence to Lake Benton. The postoffice building being the only house of any description in Pipestone county, the mail carriers were not overburdened with work. A man named King infrequently brought the mail from Lake Benton by ox team, but there was no regular mail service until July, 1875. Another event of the year 1874 was no less important than the erection of the county's second building, erected not far from Mr. Sweet's cabin by John Lowry. It was completed December 8.

D. E. Sweet and family and John Lowry spent the winter of 1874-75 in their new homes, and they were the only persons in the county that winter, their nearest neighbors being at Flandreau. They laid in a stock of provisions for the winter, and Mr. Sweet contracted with a man at Lake Benton to deliver a supply of fuel. The fuel was not delivered, and the lonely pioneers were obliged to burn hay. C. H. Bennett in 1878 wrote of the experiences of his friends that long winter:

Who can picture the loneliness, the anxiety, the monotony, of such a life as they lived here during the rigid winter of 1874-75, during which for two months they saw only two trappers, who became lost in a storm and wandered to this place?¹¹ Few of you

⁷The Sweet house was the first habitable and permanent building in Pipestone county and was occupied by the family for several years. The building still stands and is occupied as a residence, being the second house west from the southwest corner of the intersection of Catlin and Frances streets.

⁸Dr. Taylor was on a return trip to his old home in Wisconsin from Nebraska. He had stopped off at Beaver Creek for a visit with his sister, and there heard of the beautiful and romantic country at the Pipestone quarry and decided to visit the spot.

⁹These were the first pieces of land broken in Pipestone county. C. H. Bennett paid five dollars per acre for his breaking. To pay for it he borrowed \$100 of a LeMars banker, on which he paid interest at the rate of sixty per cent a year until he paid the same.

¹⁰Where the Milwaukee depot and elevators now stand. W. W. Whitehead and Henry Whitehead did the work.

¹¹In an old hotel register Mr. Sweet recorded the names of the visitors to Pipestone during that winter and the next spring. Under date of January 8, 1875, is this entry: "Frank T. Lambert and Ira W. Gibson, of Worthington,—snow-bound two days." In the book are also recorded the facts that the last day of the year 1874 was warm enough to thaw, and that on March 9, 1875, was a thaw, the first in ninety-one days. "J. E. Chamberlin, of Granite Falls,—bound for the Black Hills," was recorded under date of April 17, 1875, and on June 1, 1875, "minister's party of nine camped at Pipestone."

who are before me know anything of what it is to pioneer. For two months they had nothing to burn except hay, as it was at the risk of one's life to venture far away from one's home, for fear of being caught in a blizzard. The spring of 1875 found the four actual settlers who had wintered in the county alive and well, and poor prospect ahead for immigration to the county.

Pipestone county's population was not greatly increased during 1875, but events occurred that year which promised new settlers for 1876. Dr. W. J. Taylor, who had paid a brief visit to the new county in 1874 and had spent the winter in his old home in Wisconsin, organized a party of men and in the spring drove to Pipestone. The new arrivals were Dr. Taylor, H. D. Sanford, Fred Rogers, Col. J. M. Bull, Hiram Flick and Mr. Main. The doctor built a cabin on his claim and broke some land. Some of the others took claims and broke land, about 100 acres being broken in the county in the spring of 1875. After this work most of the party, in June, returned to their old homes, leaving Mr. Sweet and his family and Mr. Lowry the only inhabitants. Mr. Sweet sowed ten acres of his land on section 12 to corn and oats. This was the first crop planted in Pipestone county and the only one planted in 1875. The grasshoppers did the harvesting. In July, 1875, a weekly mail service was established between Pipestone and Lake Benton, the mail being carried under contract by a Mr. Snyder, of Lake Benton. During the same summer Messrs. Sweet and Lowry made a diagonal road across the county, it forming a part of the projected road from Marshall to Sioux Falls.

When winter set in it found in Pipestone county only Mr. Sweet and his family, determined to spend the winter season in the new country and prevent it from being said the county was deserted. Owing to the stringency of the times, the

head of the family was obliged to make occasional trips to adjoining neighborhoods to earn money for the maintenance of his family. During these periods Mrs. Sweet with her child remained alone in the lonely home, many long miles from the nearest neighbor.¹²

Those who came to Pipestone county with the intention of later becoming permanent residents were a determined set of men, and many schemes for the advancement of the community were discussed. So early as 1875 D. C. Whitehead, who was interested in the proposed town at the quarries, and who the following year sold his interests to Mr. Bennett, suggested to his co-workers that they should try to secure from congress an appropriation of \$50,000 for founding an Indian school, similar to that at Carlisle, to be constructed of native stone. From this early day suggestion developed the plans which later led to the founding of the school. Several other propositions which the boomers thought would tend to bring settlement to the county were seriously discussed. Among them was one of no less importance than the organization of Pipestone county. It was through the activities of Dr. Taylor, C. H. Bennett, D. E. Swett and H. D. Sanford that the plan developed farther than some of the others. Mr. Bennett spent two weeks in St. Paul, lobbying in the interests of a bill which provided that the county should be organized at any time when there were twenty legal voters residing in the county. The bill was introduced in the house by Representative W. H. Melten, of Murray county, and passed that body. Mr. Bennett, having been assured that the bill would pass the senate, returned to LeMars, but it met defeat in the senate, owing largely to the efforts of a

¹²In Mr. Sweet's diary is found the information that the first hard frost of the season occurred September 10, 1875, and the second one

September 25; that on October 10 there were one and one-half inches of snow on the ground.

senator, president of a railroad company opposing settlement in new regions, except immediately adjacent to its constructed line.

Early in the spring of 1876 several of those who had before taken claims returned, and several new settlers arrived. Among the number were Dr. W. J. Taylor, H. D. Sanford, Col. J. M. Bull, Fred Rogers, William Brown, C. H. Bennett, Job Whitehead, Hiram Flick and Joseph Tilleston. Most of these came with the intention of residing permanently in the county, built on their claims, broke land and put in crops, Messrs. Sanford and Taylor seeding more land than the others.¹³ Messrs. Bennett and Whitehead brought a large number of cuttings, which they set out, starting the first groves in Pipestone county.

Although few in numbers, the pioneers of 1876 were progressive and were continually planning ways to bring about the settlement and development of the community. To this end a public meeting was held at the home of D. E. Sweet April 13, 1876, participated in by all who were in the county, namely, D. E. Sweet, C. H. Bennett, Col. J. M. Bull, Dr. W. J. Taylor and H. D. Sanford. The meeting had an important bearing on the future history of Pipestone county. The secretary's minutes of the meeting were in the following words:

At a meeting held at Pipestone on April 13, 1876, Col. Bull was made chairman, and C. H. Bennett, secretary. Motion by W. J. Taylor, seconded by D. E. Sweet. Carried. That secretary prepare a petition to [the proper authorities] for immediate mail service from Luverne to Pipestone City.

Motion carried that as soon as possible

¹³The first grain of the season was sown by H. D. Sanford April 19. The exhibition of the seeder and corn planter which were used in planting the crop, twenty-five years later, created considerable interest in Pipestone.

¹⁴These early settlers realized that to bring about the settlement of Pipestone county the relations between the Indians and the whites must be peaceable. They knew that none except the United States government and the Indians had rights at the quarries, and they resolved to respect those rights and to use

direct route be established to Worthington.

Motion carried that we respect and enforce to the best of our ability the rights of the Indians to the Indian reservation.¹⁴

Motion carried that committee consisting of chairman, H. D. Sanford and W. J. Taylor be appointed to proceed to inquire as to the best and speediest method of providing justices of the peace, constable and assessor.

Motion carried that D. E. Sweet be appointed committee to act in the matter of transferring records from Cottonwood county to Rock county.

Motion carried that offer on behalf of the settlers in Pipestone county of Bennett & Sweet to donate a block in the townsite of Pipestone City for court house purposes be accepted.

(Signed) CHARLES H. BENNETT, Sec.

Fifty-two land claims of various kinds were taken during 1876, but on only a few were improvements made, and less than a dozen people spent the summer in Pipestone county. Nevertheless many items of importance occurred that year. C. H. Bennett and D. E. Sweet surveyed the Pipestone City townsite, Mr. Bennett erected an office building on the site in June, and the same month John Lowry, who had returned after spending the winter abroad, opened a little store in the building he had erected in 1874. The store was conducted only a few months. As the first step toward establishing a road from Pipestone to Worthington, three of the settlers, D. E. Sweet, W. J. Taylor and C. H. Bennett, made the trip across the country to the northwestern end of the diagonal wagon road that led to Worthington, erecting sod mounds along the most direct route. Weekly mail service was established between Pipestone and Luverne the latter part of September, the contract being secured by Dr. Brock,

their influence toward having those who would follow take the same view. The greatest, and practically the only, difficulty encountered in inducing settlers to locate in the county was the fear of Indians. Not knowing the conditions, many people censured the men who were endeavoring to found a settlement on the edge of an Indian reservation—only one mile square. The promoters had to contend not only with the trials incident to the settlement of any new country, but also with the prejudices of many well-meaning people.



A TYPICAL SOD SHANTY

In Such Homes as These Hundreds of Pipestone County Residents Had Their Homes.
This Was the Only Home Near Jasper. Photograph Taken in 1889.



CACTUS FOUND AT THE PIPESTONE QUARRIES

Containing Specimens of "Opuntia Missounenses" (Here First Found and Analyzed by
Mrs. C. H. Bennett) and "Opuntia Fragilis."

Heavy snows came, and the service was very irregular.¹⁵ The first religious services held in Pipestone county were conducted by Rev. E. H. Bronson, of Luverne, June 25, 1876, in C. H. Bennett's little office building (now a part of his residence).¹⁶ Fourteen persons participated in the services.¹⁷

So far as material advancement was concerned the year 1876 was almost a blank. In August the grasshoppers came in myriads and devoured almost everything, including the grain crops, gardens, young trees, cuttings and every thing except about sixty acres of wheat on H. D. Sanford's claim.¹⁸ No grain was threshed in Pipestone county that season, but the next spring Dr. Taylor secured a machine at Luverne and threshed out the little grain the grasshoppers had left. He did the work more as an advertisement and to show that Pipestone county was a grain producer than with an idea of realizing a profit. In fact, the hire of the machine amounted to more than the grain was worth. It had stood in stack all winter and was unfit for seed.

The grasshopper visitation was almost a fatal blow to the little settlement. By the last of September practically everybody had left the county. But the proprietors of the new townsite did not pro-

pose to give up the fight, and an arrangement was made whereby C. H. Bennett remained at Pipestone the first half of the winter and D. E. Sweet the second half. Accordingly, Mr. Bennett remained at Pipestone until just before Christmas, attending to the postoffice, when he departed for his old home.¹⁹ Mr. Sweet, after an extended business trip in Iowa, returned to Pipestone in January, 1877, his wife and child having spent several weeks as the only residents of Pipestone county. The Sweet family were the only people who spent the entire winter in the county.

In the legislature of 1876-77 a bill for the organization of Pipestone county was again introduced, only to meet defeat. In the arguments presented against the measure it was alleged that there was a single white inhabitant in the county, and that a woman. In the house the bill received one affirmative vote. That legislature not only failed to authorize the organization of the county, it seriously considered the matter of wiping Pipestone county off the map. The plan of the promoters of this scheme was to divide the county in equal parts, by an east and west line, giving the north half to Lincoln county and the south half to Rock county.²⁰ It was argued that the population of some of the frontier counties

¹⁵J. G. Bennett secured the contract in June, 1877. Semi-weekly service was established August 16, 1878, and that year Hamilton Wells secured the contract.

¹⁶"The first sermon ever heard in Pipestone county, if we except the thrilling exordium of 'Gitchie Manitou, the mighty,' when he assembled the nations on the 'mountains of the prairie,' will be delivered tomorrow (Sunday, June 25) by Rev. E. H. Bronson. We congratulate the wicked in that locality on the spread of the gospel to remote lands, and trust its much needed influence may be felt to the uttermost limits of the settlement."—Rock County Herald (Luverne), June 24, 1876.

¹⁷At this service, Col. J. M. Bull, who later became one of the best known ministers of southwestern Minnesota and a presiding elder of the Methodist church, was converted.

¹⁸"Although evidently incompatible with the essential attributes of anything so manifestly saccharine, it is nevertheless true that friend Sweet, of Pipestone City, has lots of 'sand' in him. He watched the last hopper buckle on

his knapsack, pull down his vest and 'climb,' and then sat down and wrote the following:

"Editor Herald:—Thinking you may have heard that there was a total failure of crops in Pipestone county on account of the festive hopper, I wish to contradict it. The wheat crop was hurt but little, and Mr. Taylor has as good a lot of potatoes as one generally sees. The greatest damage was done to the oats. But one or two fields of corn were damaged, and but one of barley.—D. E. Sweet."—Rock County Herald, August 12, 1876.

¹⁹"C. H. Bennett, tiring of the beauty of Pipestone county and becoming surfeited with the charms of the 'Three Maidens,' came down on Tuesday [December 19] and proceeded to LeMars via the new railroad."—Rock County Herald, December 22, 1876.

²⁰"If this measure becomes a law, Pipestone City, together with the historic quarry, will fall to Rock county, and the position of our Pipestone friends will become somewhat analogous to that of our Saviour, whose persecutors parted His garments and divided the spoils."—Rock County Herald, February 2, 1877.

was so small that taxation for the support of the county organizations entailed hardships upon the people; therefore, the counties should have more territory, and the unfortunate Pipestone county offered a field for exploitation. A petition for the division was largely signed in Lincoln county, and a bill was introduced in the legislature. By the prompt resistance of a few of those interested in Pipestone county, the bill came to an inglorious end.²¹

The spring of 1877 opened auspiciously, and there were indications that at last the efforts to permanently settle Pipestone county would meet with success. J. G. Bennett returned with his family and put in a crop;²² A. O. Gray and wife came and became permanent residents; Owen Whitehead and wife arrived and settled on a claim; Dr. Taylor, Col. Bull, C. H. Bennett and Job Whitehead returned, set out groves on their claims, and put in crops; John Lowry returned; Duncan Stuart, with his son and daughter, Nancy, was a new arrival, brought considerable stock, erected a house and founded a new home;²³ William H. Wheeler and Frank G. George located in the new county; among the other arrivals were J. H. Nichols, William Jones, Adelbert Sisson and Asa Van Allstine. At the close of the season over 100 claims had been

filed upon, several claim shanties had been erected, and a large amount of breaking had been done. Grasshoppers did not put in an appearance, and about 300 bushels of grain were threshed in the fall. Truly, Pipestone county was on the advance. Permanent settlement had at last eventuated.²⁴

To select local peace officers, the first election in the county was held June 12, 1877, when a dozen voters cast their ballots for township officers—in a township that had no legal existence.²⁵ The first Fourth of July celebration was also held in 1877. Settlers to the number of fifteen or twenty gathered at the quarry in an old-fashioned picnic.

The birth of the first white child in the county occurred November 16, 1877, when a son was born to Mr. and Mrs. A. O. Gray at their farm three miles east of Pipestone.²⁶ The second child born in the county was Lilly Sweet, born to Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Sweet at Pipestone November 24, 1877.

Many of the arrivals of 1877 passed the winter in their old homes, but five or six families remained in the new-found land and established the permanency of the settlement.

The boom began in 1878. It became known that white people had actually resided within a stone's throw of the In-

²¹"C. H. Bennett, of Pipestone City, tarried here Wednesday night and put on his war paint preparatory to intervening the 'Three Maidens', who sedulously guard the sacred quarry of red pipestone. Bennett reproach muchly over the discomfiture of the unregenerate sons of Rock who proposed to swallow up Pipestone county and thus ruthlessly disturb 'vested rights'." *Rock County Herald*, April, 6, 1877.

²²"J. G. Bennett has removed to Pipestone City, where he has landed interests. Mr. Bennett will sow Dr. Taylor's plantation with small grain, hoping to receive an abundant harvest." *—Rock County Herald*, April 13, 1877.

²³"Among the recent arrivals of those seeking locations in this part of the west is Duncan Stuart, of Fillmore county, this state, who has secured a large tract of land near Pipestone City and will engage extensively in stock raising. Mr. Stuart brought with him forty-seven head of cows and young cattle and fifteen horses, which form the nucleus of what will soon become a valuable herd of stock. Mr. Stuart purchased the necessary materials for house and

other buildings at this point, and several loads went forward yesterday." *—Rock County Herald*, June 15, 1877.

²⁴"The earlier settlers found here a rough and wild wilderness, and their settlement was attended with hardships, trials and tribulations sufficient to deter the most resolute. The sod shanty was their habitation, the red men their neighbors, and their sinewy arms and level heads their capital. What a transformation they have witnessed! How like a miracle it must seem to them! Hither they came in hope. Behold the fruition! They were in search of a beautiful place wherein to dwell. They found it—rough and unpolished though it was. Now they look around and behold it in all its glory." *—Pipestone County Star*, 1894.

²⁵For an account of this first election see the political chapter.

²⁶"Pipestone enterprise knows no bounds. This time it is an eleven pound granger at the residence of A. O. Gray, of that city." *—Rock County Herald*, November 24, 1877.

dian reservation and lived to tell the tale; conditions became better known; government lands were all taken in neighboring counties; immigrants turned their attention to Pipestone county. The newcomers began arriving in February, and during March, April and May there was an unprecedented rush, homesteaders seeking locations in every township. It was impossible to supply accommodations for half of those who came. During the spring months thirty or forty new houses were erected in the county, and Pipestone City became a town in fact, as well as in name. In an address at the Fourth of July celebration, in 1878, held at Pipestone falls and the quarries—the scene of the birth of the peace pipe—C. H. Bennett told of the activities in the spring of that year as follows:

So far this year 550 filings have been made upon government lands in Pipestone county, and 247 contracts have been entered into for the purchase of railroad lands, aggregating over 5000 acres of land filed upon. Mr. Sweet and myself estimate that there have been broken on wild land (government) 5000 acres, on railroad lands, 2500 acres, total breaking in the county this year, 7500 acres. Approximate acres in crop, 500. Approximate number of trees set out this spring, 40,000. The improvements which have taken place this spring far outweigh that which has been done in the county previously.

Most of the new settlers came by way of Laverne, among them F. L. Pease and family, Dr. E. M. Carr, who came in March; J. H. Austin, Charles H. Smith, W. B. Brown, Dr. G. W. Morrill, Riley French and H. D. Sanford, who returned to locate permanently. From that village to Pipestone a tri-weekly stage and express line was put in operation April 8 by J. G. Bennett and Levi Shell. The same firm kept rigs at Pipestone to convey landseekers to the surrounding country and did an extensive business. The following items from the Rock County

Herald give an idea of the activities during the spring months of 1878:

March 1. For two or three years Pipestone county has been the Mecca of those in search of timber claims. It is now stated that the chances are nearly or quite all taken, and thousands of acres are being taken under the homestead law.

March 8. The house of D. E. Sweet, the bold pioneer of Pipestone county, is fairly overrun with land seekers these days, and Sweet prays for an enterprising Boniface to erect a hotel of capacity sufficient to accommodate at least a score of people, and thus relieve him of a burden that is becoming decidedly oppressive. Three in a bed, with the softest spots in the second floor preempted, is the status frequently nowadays.

May 3. Twenty-six breaking teams, with plows and camping outfits, passed through town Saturday enroute to Pipestone county, Minnesota, and Moody county, Dakota.

May 17. Parties from Pipestone City who came down yesterday report meeting no less than twenty-two covered wagons enroute to that place. . . . Two droves of cattle, ninety head in all, passed through town Monday enroute to Pipestone county, of which number sixty-nine belonged to Mr. Stuart, who has a goodly herd there, driven out last year. His herd now numbers about 150.

May 24. Land hunters are still flocking into Pipestone county in crowds.

In the early settlement of every western county there has always been a "big year"—one in which the dreams of the pioneers have come true. In Pipestone county it was the year 1878. Before that time little headway had been made. The few who had put their faith in the new country had endured many hardships, had seen their crops destroyed, and had been considered visionary for attempting to settle the "Indian country." But they had clung on with the idea that better times were coming; that Pipestone county would yet be reclaimed from its wild state. Their beliefs had now been justified.

The crop of 1878 was slightly injured by hot winds, but in general a good yield was reported. The promise of the building of the Southern Minnesota railroad through the county the following year added to the activities of the community,

and new settlers arrived in the fall months. Without authority, the residents held an election in November and chose a set of county officers, and then set to work to secure the necessary action to bring about

the organization of the county. The government of the land over which Gitché Manitou had ruled for so many centuries was about to pass into the hands of white men.

CHAPTER XX.

COUNTY AND TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATION -1879-1880.

SO GREAT had been the immigration to Pipestone county during 1878 that the residents decided to again make the effort to interest the Minnesota legislature in the matter of organization. The matter was talked over informally during the summer, and on November 1 a public meeting was held at the office of Sweet & Nichols in Pipestone. There it was decided to make a united effort to bring about the much desired condition. In anticipation of favorable action by the legislature, county officers were placed in nomination, and the decision was reached to hold an election on the day of the general state election, at which time the question of organization should be decided by ballot. J. H. Nichols was chosen to go to St. Paul and appear before the legislature in the interests of the bill which it was proposed to introduce. At the election one hundred votes were cast, of which sixty-six were in favor of organization and thirty-four against.

A bill providing the organization of Pipestone county and the legalization of the election held in November was intro-

duced in the legislature, and largely through the influence of J. B. Wakefield became a law.¹ The bill passed the house under suspension of the rules January 23, 1879;² in the senate it met with some opposition, but was passed on the twenty-fourth under suspension of the rules. The act, which was signed by Governor John S. Pillsbury January 27, 1879, was as follows:

An act to organize the county of Pipestone and to legalize the election of county officers chosen at the general election in November, 1878.

Be it enacted by the legislature of the state of Minnesota:

Section 1. The county of Pipestone is hereby declared to be a legally organized county, with all the rights, privileges, powers and immunities of organized counties within the state of Minnesota.

Section 2. The persons who were chosen by a majority of the votes cast in said Pipestone county on the day of the general election in November, 1878, to the offices of auditor, treasurer, register of deeds, sheriff, surveyor, judge of probate, county attorney, clerk of the district court, coroner, court commissioner, superintendent of schools and county commissioners of said county are hereby declared to have been legally elected to said offices respectively, provided said persons were at the time of their election eligible to office in said county, and upon qualifying as required under existing laws

¹"The people of this county owe J. B. Wakefield a debt of gratitude for the faithful manner in which he stood by our interests during the last legislature, when the question of organization came up, in which he showed no narrowness of feeling, but was willing to give Pipestone county an equal show with the other counties of the state."—Pipestone County Star, August 14, 1879.

²"Wasn't the house just a 'leedle bit' fast in passing under suspension of rules the bill organizing Pipestone county? In the session of 1877, when a bill for the purpose was before the house, it received but one vote. . . . Two years later the bill was rushed through under suspension of rules, but perhaps this is all right and merely illustrates the rapid filling up of one of our frontier districts."—St. Paul Dispatch, January 23, 1879.

regulating the qualifying of county officers, at any time prior to April 1, 1879, shall be deemed to be lawfully in possession of the said offices, and shall enter upon the discharge of their duties as such.

Section 3. If any person chosen to office as aforesaid shall not have qualified as such officer prior to the first day of April, 1879, such office shall be deemed vacant and may be filled by appointment as provided by law in case of organized counties.

Section 4. The county commissioners of said county when qualified may, by vote of said board, locate and establish the county seat of said county, and when so established the county seat shall not be removed to any place except in the manner provided by law.

Section 5. This act shall be a public act and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved, January 27, 1879.

Within less than a month after the passage of the bill, on February 19, 1879, the organization of Pipestone county was perfected. The first meeting of the board of county commissioners, composed of S. L. Bailey, E. L. Rork and W. B. Brown, was held at the office of Sweet & Nichols, in Pipestone, on that date.³ The next day the county authorities accepted as a gift from D. E. Sweet two blocks of land for court house purposes. On March 12 the county board passed a resolution, declaring Pipestone the county seat of Pipestone county.

The matter of township organizations was an early consideration, and before the close of the year 1879 all except two of the townships had been granted local government; the other two were created in 1880. The several townships were authorized to organize in the following order: Sweet, Osborne, Burke, Grange, Fountain Prairie, Rock, Gray, Elmer, Eden, Troy, Altona, Aetna.

SWEET.

Sweet township, embracing the whole of Pipestone county, was created by the

board of county commissioners at the second meeting, February 20, 1879. It was named by the county board in honor of the county's first settler. Asa Van Allstine, A. O. Gray and Samuel Harrison were appointed a board of election to preside over the first town meeting on the second Tuesday in March, when were chosen the township's first officers. At the election, which was held in the village of Pipestone March 11, the following were chosen the first officers: D. E. Sweet chairman; Isaac N. Converse and John Pearson, supervisors; John Stuart,⁴ clerk; Frank Rork, constable. The township organization was perfected when the board of supervisors met for the first time on March 22.

From time to time new townships were created until the original Sweet township was nearly legislated out of existence. In December, 1879, its territory had been reduced to land comprising the present townships of Sweet, Altona and Aetna. On the eighth day of November the residents of township 106, range 46 and the fraction of range 47, petitioned the county board for organization under the name Sweet township, leaving the other townships to shift for themselves. The petition was considered December 3, but because it did not contain the signatures of a majority of the legal voters of the precinct, the board did not at that time authorize the organization. However, the matter was remedied later, and Sweet township with its present boundaries was created. Following is a list of those who received title to land in Sweet township under the homestead and timber culture acts (not including pre-emptions):⁵

James M. Bull (2), Sarah A. Craig (8), Silas Judd (20), Asa Van Allstine (10),

except such as were in the vicinity of Pipestone, which were to be assessed at \$5.00 per acre.

⁴Did not qualify and C. H. Bennett was appointed.

⁵This list and those for the other townships

³S. L. Bailey was elected chairman of the board on the sixth ballot; the bonds of some of the county officers were approved; the county was divided into two assessment districts; the whole county was created into one township and named Sweet; the motion prevailed that all deeded lands be assessed at \$3.00 per acre

Adelbert G. Sisson (2), Thomas H. Kinney (30), George E. Beebe (34), George Feeney (8), Thomas E. Hosman (14), Charles L. Lockie (14), Maggie Colson (26), Charles H. Bennett (10), Emily T. Bennett (14), George W. Morrill (24), Heirs of Charles A. Sherwin (26), Samuel Hartley (6), Henry O. Whitehead (18), Job Whitehead (2), James Deverant (18), James C. Newburg (10), Garrison L. Jaycox (28), John W. Thomas (32), Donald M. Stuart (22-34), Joseph H. Crawford (6), Theodore W. Staples (18), Ernest L. Rork (6), John Clark (34), Asa Lawrence (8), Allen D. Ferris (26), Horace Gilmore (34), Ichabod B. Smith (28), John M. Poorbaugh (24r47), Joshua L. Odell (20), Jeremiah Harrison (22), Heinrich Winter (6), Duncan Stuart (22-4), Henry J. Conlin (14r47), John Klinsing (32), Miles Fleming (30), Newton Kinyon (10), William E. Wheeler (14), Frank G. George (14), John Glembin (32), Thomas Halpin (12r47), Theodore W. Staples (18), Wheeler Nesbit (28), Gottlieb Zellmer (24r47), Julius H. Nichols (26), John Stuart (8), William W. Whitehead (20), Thomas McNaughton (4), William Passer (30), Allen G. Lincoln (32), John A. Talbert (12r47), James Karney (20), Nelson W. Brown (18), Fred Nuffer (12r47), Theodore L. Malder (26r47), Oren D. Brown (24), Andrew Burch (2r47).

OSBORNE.

The first township organized with the boundaries as at present established was Osborne. In response to a petition of the residents, the commissioners declared it organized at a meeting on March 31, 1879. The first town meeting was held at the residence of E. W. Day on section 20 April 15. The name was suggested by William J. Dodd and was given in honor of that gentleman's cousin, J. C. Osborne, of Newark, New Jersey. Mr. Osborne presented the township with a large flag and a pennant upon which the

are taken from the records in the office of the register of deeds. The number in parentheses following the name designates the section on which the land was located. The seniority of title is maintained—the earliest appearing first on the list. The earliest title under the homestead and timber claim acts was received in 1879.

Major D. E. Runals, of Osborne township, furnishes the following items concerning the early history of the precinct: The first breaking was done by George Ganfield in 1876. He also erected the first building in the township, a sod hut on the northeast quarter of section 32, in 1876. The same year another sod hut was erected by another settler on the northeast quarter of section 8. The first frame building was put up in the spring of 1877 by A. D. Kingsbury on the southeast quarter of section

name was inscribed.⁶ The following received land patents in Osborne township:

Albert A. Dodge (28), Peter E. Bradshaw (14), Ann H. Day (32), John Casserly (10), Hiram Allen (34), George D. Dodd (2), George M. Wright (18), Samuel M. Webster (20), Cornelius Delaney (14-12), Percy Cole (20), Samuel Cook (30), Valoo Moore (12), Alonzo D. Kingsbury (28), Elizabeth Dockstader (32), Leander Dickey (18), Edwin W. Day (20), William F. Stockdill (8), William A. Moulton (12), John Harvey (24), Sardis H. Turner (8), Carlton C. Fuller (18), Henry K. Bateman (4), Havilat O. Gates (24), Charles Crippen (4), Justus C. Hathaway (24), Charles E. McCall (30), Charles H. Kingsbury (32), Nelson R. Brayton (34), Harry R. Lamb (14), George H. Richardson (26), James Maniner (8), William Dodd (12), Willis Humphrey (30), Marcus H. Cox (6), Sarah J. Chapman Runals (34), George Premo (12), Charles E. McCall (30), Major D. E. Runals (22), Thomas J. Butterfield (20), William Lockwood (22), Willis E. Dailey (10), Johnson W. Stone (20), Myron H. Perrigo (6), Edward H. Hart (10), Willis R. Terrell (22), Norman S. Toban (4), Carlton C. Fuller (18), Marie A. Baker (14), Charles W. Mitchell (34), Roy E. Gunsolus (32), John P. Ashbaugh (24), Herbert E. Stone (2).

BURKE.

Township 106 of range 44 was created by action of the county commissioners April 26, 1879, and named Erin. The first town meeting was held at the residence of Michael Moriarity on the northwest quarter of section 15. At a subsequent meeting in the claim shanty of John Shea, on the southwest quarter of section 26, it was decided to change the name to Burke, in honor of Rev. Thomas N. Burke.⁷ The change was ratified by the county commissioners June 2, 1879.⁸

28. Ann Day taught the first school (private) in the township, and West Webster was the first public school teacher. The first church services were held at the home of E. W. Day, and that gentleman was the superintendent of the first Sabbath school in Pipestone county. The first white child born in the township was Kittie Finnegan, born in 1879. The second child born was Frank Kingsbury, born the same year.

⁷Rev. Thomas N. Burke, O. P., was born in Galway, Ireland. He was a renowned orator and famous lecturer in defense of Ireland. He visited America on a lecturing tour in 1871.

⁸Five hundred sixty acres of sod were turned in Burke township in 1878 and 940 acres in 1879. In the last named year the acreage sown to crop was as follows: Wheat, 460 acres; sod corn, 250 acres; oats, 85 acres; barley, 5 acres.

Those who received land from the government in Burke township were as follows:

John Rice (26), John McNallon (26), Maggie J. Ditten (4), Henry King (30), Edwin Wilkins (4), Owen Kinsella (24), Benjamin H. Conrad (24), Ludwig Doms (12), Granger Hickcox (2), Isaac N. Converse (32), John H. Councilman (24), Patrick Saunders (34), Warren A. Prall (8), Richard Shea (26), John Shea (26), George A. Miller (4), August Luhde (12), John Moriarity (10-18-22), Benjamin Rogers (32), Edward W. Bowers (14), Patrick Hartigan (34), John Wingie (10), Michael C. Mahoney (8), William H. Ryan (14), Thomas Shea (28), Cornelius Ryan (26), George W. Gleason (18), Daniel Duggan (20), Lorenzo D. Ishmael (18), William H. Walker (10), William Doms (12), David Deits (10), Kasson Hickcox (2), John Delaney (30), James C. Delaney (30), Dennis Hennessy (8), John W. Smiley (20), Charles M. Pease (18), James Ryan (28), Phillip Brown (18), George W. Nash (24), Michael C. O'Mahony (18), James Delaney (28), John H. Larne (20), Heirs of William Ware (14), John C. French (4), Heirs of Ardin P. Goodman (12).

GRANGE.

The township of Grange was put under local government only after a lengthy squabble over a name. Among the names suggested were Upton, Heyburn and Clary. At an election for the purpose the name Clary was chosen, in honor of an early settler, but when the township was created by the commissioners April 26, 1879, in response to a petition by W. B. Brown and others, it was named Blaine. On June 2 the commissioners changed the name to Grange. The township was organized at the first town meeting, held at the home of J. L. Humphrey on section 26 May 17. The following were granted land patents in Grange township:

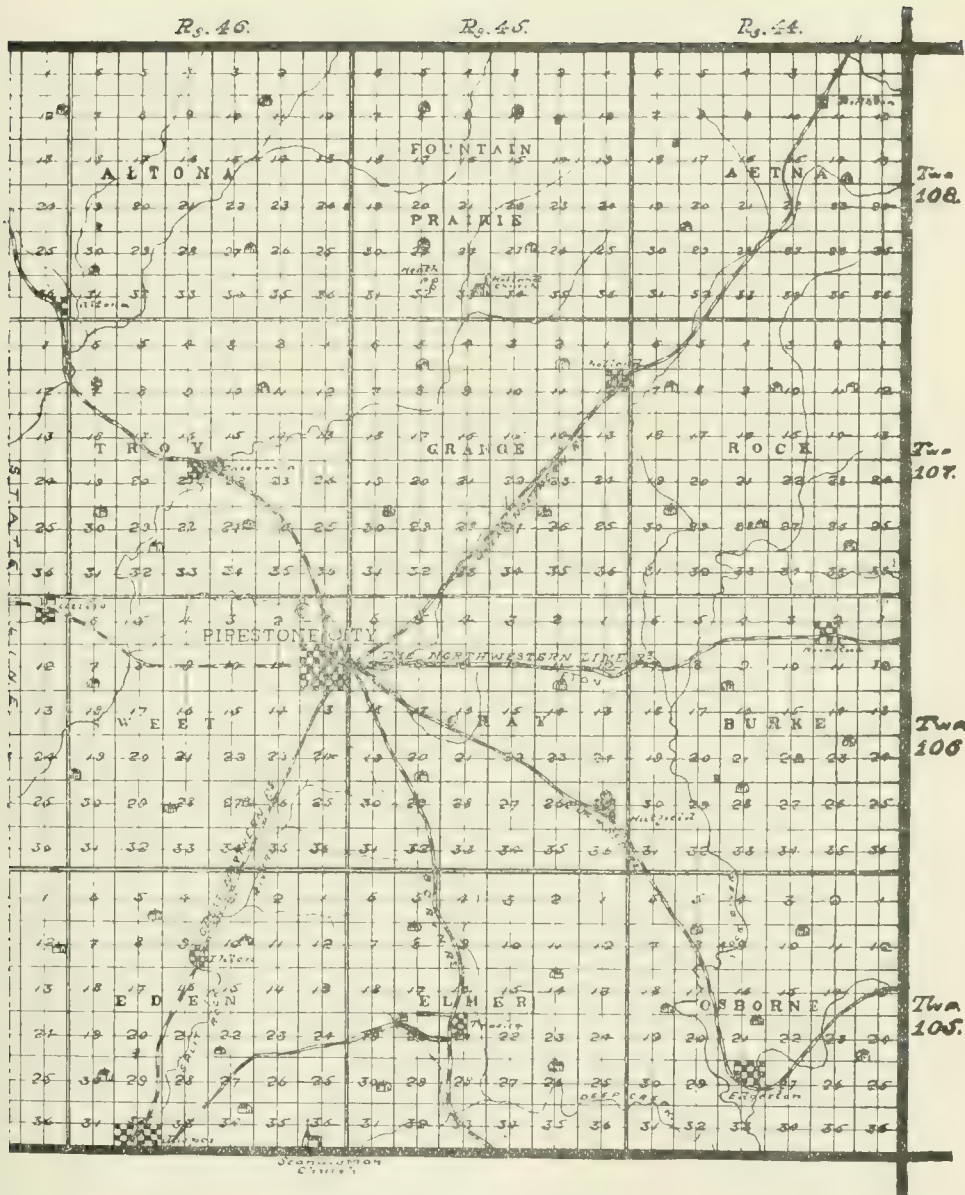
Hamilton Wells (28), Sarah A. Frost (6), Lewis B. Metcalf (4), Stillman J. Perkins (26), Robert Hislop (18), Andrew F. Jackson (32), Martin J. Easland (26), Bristow S. Clark (20), William W. Gray (34), Lorentz V. Ackermann (18), Andrew F. Johnson (32), James L. Humphrey (26), Ira Riddell (14), Warren McCarter (22), Nelson Minet (24), Joseph Hatfield (2), Henry Montville (6), John Gilson (20), James T. Suffron (30), James Hall, Jr., (28), Henry H. Raph (10), Harry J. Hall (24), Addie J. Hoagland

(8), W. B. Brown (30-32), Luke Brown (20), Frank Montgomery (2), Silas E. Wharton (32), John W. Wells (28), Louis Zarn (22), John E. Dannaker (28), Carl Boum (4), Christopher Buchholz (2), Charles C. Drew (20), Heirs of John D. George (8), Hosea T. Humphrey (34), Christopher J. Ross (10), James M. Bull (30), Flavia Montville (6), Joseph B. Fate (8), John Lafferty (10), Samuel J. Hamilton (14), Thomas Ollerton (12), Ceylon E. Taylor (14), Sanford A. Montville (30), Jacob Zimmerman (12), Anson Pike (6), George A. Clark (32), Loski D. Peck (28), Peter Thornton (24), Hiram W. George (8), John Weinkauff (2), Alexander T. Serrurier (10), Elizabeth Arrowsmith (12), Leon H. Moore (18), Stephen Rice (4), John Weighill (26), Edwin F. Cheney (6), Nathaniel Leshner (4), Elmer Hatch (14).

FOUNTAIN PRAIRIE.

Township 108 of range 15 was declared organized by the commissioners June 2 and named Upton. The first town meeting was held at the home of E. E. Link on section 28 June 11. The organization was legalized by the county law-making body June 28, 1879. Later the township was given the name Fountain Prairie. It was named by Charles Heath, one of the early settlers, and was named after Mr. Heath's old home township in Columbia county, Wisconsin. Those who secured lands in Fountain Prairie township under the homestead and tree claim acts were as follows:

James McVey (4), Christopher Byrne (30), Thomas Olson (20), Louis Hirschy (18), Caleb Heath (32), Moses A. Heath (32), David W. Inman (24), Robert M. Doughty (26), Gilbert A. Ripley (14), Frank Vermilya (20), Louis Gilbertson (34), John Griffin (18), Ernest Schultz (10), James Hines (22), Alpha Snyder (8), Edwin Giles (26), Clark W. Smith (12), Egbert E. Link (22), Charles Heathfield (34), Chris Hogan (28), Cortland Vermilya (28), Joseph Simpson (4), Herman Sass (14), Frederick Bussey (8), George P. Taylor (26), Thomas H. Marcus (6), William H. McLard (18), James Giles (20), Charles R. McLard (18), Nancy Pearson (32), Thaddeus R. Cummings (12), Orlo H. Jackson (26), Henry Clausen (14), Lewis Lawrence (6), Edward L. Andrews (20), Marx C. Siercks (24), Thomas Brown (8), Soren Hansen (30), Niels P. Hanson (2).



MAP OF PIPESTONE COUNTY

ROCK.

Rock township, named after the river which flows through it, was also created June 2. The first town meeting was held June 14 at the residence of W. M. Ware on section 22. The organization was legalized by the county board June 28, 1879. Government lands in Rock township were granted as follows:

Nelson Moore (28), Hiram O. Lillie (20), Edmund Haden (10), Mickael Gembal (14), Samuel Wyley (10), Goodlo T. Brooks (28), George Miller (4), Milton W. Ware (22), Victor Christensen (8), William Ware (22), William Ludke (10), Harriett A. Boomhower (20), Richard S. Wilkins (4), Stephen Grieves (6), Charles Ludke (8), William Foster (14), John Meier (34), Elmer Hatch (30), Wesley E. Stewart (4), Chester S. Cutting (26), Alexander Thompson (26), Amos B. Conant (22), James R. Morton (8-26), Edwin Hatch (28), Ezra E. Prall (28), James I. Garrett (18), Emma I. Clews (20), Fritz Reikow (8), Frank Judevine (30), Eben C. Thomas (34), Harold B. Ellithorp (28), Charles Walter (20), Lorenzo D. Butts (22), Ira A. Marlette (14), Albert Quackenbush (24), Lewis E. Ziegler (6), Gottlob Mokler (30).

GRAY.

Gray township was created June 28, 1879, the first town meeting was held July 19 at the home of Andrew O. Gray on the southwest quarter of section 10, and the township was officially declared organized July 28. The precinct was named in honor of Andrew O. Gray, the first permanent settler in the township. At the first town meeting the following officers were elected and served as the precinct's first officials: L. D. Peck, Andrew O. Gray and E. S. Avery, supervisors; C. W. Fenlason, clerk; W. S. Bradford, treasurer; S. C. Bailey and Rod Campbell, justices of the peace; D. Young and H. Dickey, constables. The grantees of government land in Gray township:

William J. Taylor (18), Homer M. Wise (8), John Eagan (18), Charles W. Fenlason (14), Henry Stauffer (4), Hartson Dickey

(24), Daniel Young (30), Andrew O. Gray (10), Wilbur S. Wheeler (24), William H. Brown (6), Lewis C. Bailey (30), Samuel L. Bailey (18), Julius H. Nichols (20), William L. Bradford (32), Warren J. Pratt (6), Delciett E. Gleason (28), Charles W. Maxfield (22), Harrison Dickey (10), William D. Peck (26), Joseph H. Parker (20), Clarence E. Merrill (18), Robert Campbell (26), Joseph Clifford (34), William F. Lobdell (34), Alonzo Staples (10), William Aust (12), Charles W. Embury (2), Henry Iron (22), Orville J. Taylor (8), Charles Smith (6), Horace G. Willey (12), Herman Haney (2), Charles T. Howe (14), John Grass (22), Charles W. Bailey (20), Ogden Smith (14), Harriet N. Fenlason (14), Henry W. Pease (24), Marshall Harrison (28), Emerson J. Gleason (12), Samuel Avery (28), Hiram A. Kennison (10), John I. Bernard (8), George D. Gamble (22), William R. Erredge (32), William T. W. Erredge (32), James G. Bennett (6), James L. Helm (26), Samuel C. Furlow (24), Joseph E. Fargo (34), William Frybarger (32), William Hill (12), Ambrose A. Bangs (14), James D. Harding (4).

ELMER.

The petition asking for the creation of township 105 of range 45 was presented to the county board July 28, 1879, and final hearing on the matter was set for August 28. At that time the township was declared created, and Saturday, August 30, was named as the date for holding the first town meeting, at which the name of the precinct should be chosen by ballot. Many of the first settlers came from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and the name of their city had many adherents at the election for choice of a name. At the meeting, held on the northwest quarter of section 20, the name Elmer was chosen. The following were the first officers of Elmer township: Fred Kurz, F. A. Bishop and William Tibbetts, supervisors; J. A. Lemmenes, clerk; John D. Tyler, treasurer; William Bixby, M. Bromley and E. E. Clements, justices of the peace; C. G. Sercumb, S. Y. Sickler and Henry Paul, constables. Homestead and timber culture patents were granted in Elmer township as follows:

Isaac C. Bertrand (12), Kinsey Maxfield (34), Harlan Trumble (28), Charles Kruger (30), William Bixby (4), James R. Swain (22), Thomas J. Lynch (10), Joshua M. Littlefield (24), John A. Lemmenes (4-12), Jacob C. Noteman (24), Ferdinand Kurz (20), Henry Pane (20), Wendelin Shuck (20), Thomas Kennedy (14), Charles R. Wait (8), Harry P. Browning (12), Henry Denhart (14), William T. Sanborn (18), Mahlon Bromley (32), Charles Combs (6), William F. Tibbetts (10), Jul K. Braaten (22), Joshua C. Parriott (12), William H. Jones (26), Abbe C. Sanborn (18), Peder A. Roen (34), William Naylor (12), Holsten M. Moen (28), Samuel J. Premo (2), Owen T. Jones (6), Robert C. VanHoesen (26), Joseph L. Denhart (6), Giermun T. Hagen (22), Michael Floody (10), Harry E. Denhart (22), David Rogers (34), Andrew Lowry (32), John H. Denhart (4), Patrick H. O'Brien (2), George S. Waite (30), John Floody (24), Chris Peterson Velling (28), Daniel J. Denhart (22), Howard W. Foote (26), Charles M. Richards (18), William C. Ewerts (34), Robert Kennedy (10), Lars E. Korstad (28).

EDEN.

The petition for the organization of the southwestern corner township of Pipestone county was presented to the county board August 25, 1879, and at a final hearing September 27 the township was duly declared created. The first town meeting was held at the home of S. B. Owens on the last day of September. The beautiful stretch of country comprising the township suggested the Garden of Eden to the pioneers, and they named the township Eden." The first officers were as follows: William F. Lange, chairman; O. C. Ihlen and F. M. Chute, supervisors; S. B. Owens, clerk; Antone Johnson, treasurer; Carl Ihlen, assessor; J. Drew and J. Q. Foster, justices of the peace; Warren Frew and Henry Nelson, constables; Hans Ihlen, poundmaster. Those who received land under the home-

stead and timber culture acts were as follows:

William McGowan (18), Cadwallader Williams (18), George Krapf (30), Thomas E. Dixon (12), Halvor K. Olson (34), Henry G. Nelson (26), John E. Foster (34), Joshua Drew (20), Carl E. Nelson (26), Soren Larson (26), Alexander Carnegie (30-24r47), Earnest E. Tibbetts (2), Austin E. Sackett (12), Olaus C. Ihlen (4), Hans O. Hanson (26), Miller Page (18), Carl Johan Nelson (34), Horace Page (24r47), John Minaghan (4), Anders G. Holmquist (28), Fred L. Pedrick (24), Joseph W. Drew (32), Edward Coggins (14), Richard H. O'Connell (8), Hans Christopherson (10), Christian I. Ring (14), John Carnegie, Jr., (12r47), Erick Nelson (28), Carrol Christopherson (10), Robert M. McGowan (12r47), George Fish (2), Henry R. Wells (6), John Dixon (14), Michael Conrad (20), Stephen N. Tucker (2), William H. Lange (6), William B. Gilmore (10), Ole Nelson (34), Ole A. Halseth (4), Peter O. Karterud (24), Luna Abrahamson (18), Gultorm Gundvaldsen (24r47), Willis I. Bulen (6), Simon F. Stilson (32), William F. Lange (6), John T. Johnson Aas (4), Henry Kahl, Jr., (8), Darby C. Dixon (22), Christian Mickelson (22), John Natzke (12r47), William J. McGowan (12r47), Heirs of Frank Smith (32), Henry H. Gregerson (14), Frederick Conrad (30), Trules K. Anderson (24r47), Dayton LaDue (26r47), Joseph H. Morgan (10), Ole H. Einung (28), Gustave Nelson (34), George M. Walkup (2), Magnus K. Steen (24), William C. Johnson (24), Afton A. Gilmore (12).

TROY.

The last township organized in 1879 was Troy. The petition was presented November 8, and at a meeting of the county commissioners December 3 the township was officially created. The first town meeting was held at the home of D. B. Whigam December 13, on the southwest quarter of section 10, when the following first officers were chosen: C. H. VanSlyke, W. T. Cook and G. C. Hoffman, supervisors; E. A. Rice, clerk; O. T.

"Richard O'Connell distinctly recalls the meeting of the early settlers of the township held in 1879 to consider the matter of naming the town. The meeting was held at the home of Sam Owens. The pioneers did not hastily adopt the first name that was suggested. They considered the subject carefully and a number of names were proposed and rejected. Some of the names proposed were to do honor to individuals who had been identified with the early history of the township, other names sug-

gested pertained to some particular nationality. No such name could be agreed upon. At length Mr. O'Connell announced that he would propose a name that would be broad and general enough to satisfy all nationalities and all interests and when he proposed Eden the suggestion readily found favor with the assembled settlers. And so the township came to be called Eden." Pipestone County Star, December 28, 1906.

Gilson, treasurer; D. B. Whigam and A. J. Brown, justices of the peace; J. P. Fitzner and R. VanAllen, constables. The name of the township was selected at a meeting held for the purpose at the home of Mr. Whigam.¹⁰ Patents to land in Troy township were granted to the following:

Winsor Paine (24r47), Jacob Schottler (4), Andrew Pearson (8), Melvin W. Burdick (28), Frederick A. Gilson (14), O. T. Gilson (14), John Haynes (4), Daniel B. Whigam (10), Adolphus Paine (24r47), Ebenezer A. Rice (22), Albert E. Woodman (14), Charles F. Hoffman (28), Lafayette F. Stiles (24r47), Ethan E. Thornton (24), Cyrus Dixon (30), Edwin R. Wood (2), Charles H. Van Slyke (26), Henry C. Rigley (24), Otto Hartwig (24r47), Joseph T. Bristol (12r47), William W. Sweet (2), Joseph Wharton (20), Albert Griffith (12), Martha E. Houk (12), Levi B. Aldrich (8), James K. P. Fetzer (20), William T. Cook (4), Thomas O. Wilbern (24), Simon Price (30), John Henderson (6), James L. E. Jenkins (26), Lewis R. Ober (10), Frederick Jonas (18), Peter D. Halsey (6), Reuben H. Lowell (22), Theodore Paselk (18), William A. Holden (20), Franklin Plank (24), William H. Harrison (26), Eugene Butman (12r47), Emma J. Butman (12r47), Andrew J. Brown (34), Charles E. Whaley (34), Alden A. Bartlett (28), Thomas Morrill (34), Samuel Harrison (26), Heirs of Samuel L. Bailey (30), Joshua L. McFee (14), Rollin S. Goodell (2), Theodore N. Plank (10), Samuel G. Thompson (12), Heirs of Purdy Hart (18), Danon Judevine (22), John Pearson (10), John C. Morrill (14r47), William J. Halpin (24r47), John D. Carroll (26r47), Higgins Harrison (6), Fred C. Fritsch (30), Lewis A. Zimmermann (4), Jessie Alfred et al (8), Louis A. Nims (22), John A. Haines (32), Edgar A. Morrill (28).

ALTONA.

On February 10, 1880, the citizens of the northwestern corner township petitioned the county board for organization, and at a meeting February 28 the petition was granted. The organization was

perfected at the first town meeting, held at the home of George Hill on section 11 early in March. The name was selected by ballot at that time. Land patents were granted to early settlers of Altona township as follows:

Carrie P. Crum (8), Morgan L. Wood (2), Robert W. Davidson (24r47), Emil Joerim (2), August Lindal (24), Alfred W. Anderson (24), Gustaf Johnson (14-24), Wilhelm Kruschke (20), Albert E. Harris (12), Marilla M. Barrows (34), Marshall C. Barber (34), Charles W. Riley (12r47), John Ritchie (6), Darwin W. Stockley (18), August Bartelt (20-24r47), Frances D. Hoppin (26), Frank Ellis (12r47), Anders M. Anderson (14), Sophia Heilig (10), David C. Loney (24r47), George H. Bliven (26), Milo C. Milliren (8), John S. Harrison (22), Ann S. Carpenter (10), Eliza J. McKown (32), Herman Pottratz (18), John J. Tones (32), John S. Harrison (22), Joseph M. Owens (6), Henry O. Anderson (24), Erwin S. Bromley (30), Charles Jacoby (30), Fred Pottratz (24r47), Daniel Thompson (30-32), Joseph Sears (12), Charles Heilig (8-28), William Crook (18), Louis Buchholz (12r47), Mathias J. Becker (34), August Haper (26r47), William O. Lehmann (32), Edgar F. Nular (12), William E. McKown (28), George A. Sutton (4), William Kruse (24r47), Gustaf Anderson (26), Andrew L. Ely (22), Theodore Pottratz (14r47), Thomas Kelley (6), Amos Shepherd (12), Hakan Johnson (22), John L. Wagner (34), Louis E. Heilig (4), Lars C. Jorgensen (36), Alfred W. Anderson (24), Christian T. Mork (12r47), Fred Petschon (20), Emery Hasner (32), Oliver Roscoe (23), Burt Whitman (2).

AETNA.

All the townships had now been put under local government except the one in the northeast corner. The residents of that territory presented a petition June 15, 1880, and the county commissioners took favorable action July 19. The election to choose the first town officers and to select a name was held at the residence

¹⁰The meeting was held in Mr. Whigam's kitchen, and among those present were Major E. A. Rice, F. L. Plank, L. R. Ober, O. T. Gilson, John Haynes, D. R. Woodman, Al Woodman and Mr. Whigam. Considerable difficulty was encountered in making the selection, each one present suggesting a name after some one of his family or his old home in the east, and each name was rejected. The meeting was deadlocked until the name Troy was suggested by Mr. Whigam. That name was adopted by unanimous vote, Mr. Whigam's

cook stove furnished the name. When the deliberations had reached a state where it seemed impossible to agree, the owner of the stove happened to see the name Troy on the hearth, the stove having been manufactured at Troy, New York, and he was struck with the idea that that was a good name. The stove instrumental in supplying the name of the township had a history of its own. It was the first stove sold by the first dealer in Pipestone county and came from the store of William Wheeler, of Pipestone.

of Charles Lavallo, on the southwest quarter of section 22, on August 14. The vote favored the name Aetna, which was suggested by A. F. Reynolds in honor of Aetna Johnson, a step-daughter of Christ Gilbertson.¹¹ Those who received patents to land in Aetna township were as follows:

David Schultz (12), Patrick Kelley (24), Levi J. Clayton (30), Andrew Gawman (6),

Levi M. Phillips (22), Charles H. Wilkins (30), Edward Ginzel (14), Edward Van Walker (24), John Mooney (24), Christian Galbrandsen (28), Mark Littlechild (18), Thomas Thompson (30), Ole B. Johnson (2-32), David G. Smith (14-22), Edward K. Gryte (18), Margaret Hanson (32), August Bergstrom (22), Albert T. Reynolds (20), John A. Wheadon (12), Paul Sorenson (2), Jonas Horberg (18), Heirs of William Kelley (14), Gilbran Hansen (28), John Stewart (18), Hans P. Halvorsen (28), James Arrowsmith (30).

¹¹Miss Johnson was thirty years old at the time the township was named. She is now Mrs. Hammond and resides in Oklahoma.

CHAPTER XXI.

THE RAILWAY AGE—1879-1884.

WHILE fear of the Indians had delayed the occupancy of Pipestone county beyond that of all the neighboring counties, when the apprehension was finally removed the settlement and development was rapid. Where prior to 1874 not a soul had lived and prior to 1877 one family alone had maintained continuous residence, we find early in 1879 an organized county, populated with several hundred people. The conditions at that time are told in the first number of the Pipestone County Star, June 19, 1879: "Five years show what determined will and the enterprise of a few pushing men have helped to bring about. Thousands of acres of our fertile soil are under cultivation, hundreds of houses can be counted—so many, in fact, that you can scarce get out of sight of one in any portion of the county, and from some of our eminences can be counted thirty and forty at a glance. Thousands of young trees have been planted, and so rapidly has been their growth that it seems they will all run a race to see which will be the tallest. Where five years ago not a soul was living, today there are no less than a thousand, if not a greater number. Then not a domestic animal was to be seen; now as fine and

sleek herds of cattle and horses can be seen here as in many of our older settled counties. Schools have been started and churches organized, the county organized, houses and stores, hotels, shops and a lively young city established."

In the spring of 1879 came the announcement that the Southern Minnesota railroad would be extended through Pipestone county that year, and almost at the same time it became known that the Sioux City & St. Paul Railway interests would build a branch line from Heron Lake to the Black Hills, through Pipestone county. As a result there was a big rush for Pipestone county lands. Every bit of government land was filed upon, and large areas of the Southern Minnesota Railway Extension company's¹ lands were purchased. From May 12 to June 19 applications for 22,587 acres of these lands in Pipestone county were made. From May to December 10,000 acres of the land were sold, of which 10,000 acres were broken in 1879. These lands were sold at \$6.00 to \$7.00 per acre, from which a discount of \$2.50 per acre was made for all land broken during the year.² New buildings sprung up in all parts of the county, and Pipestone village in the one season grew into a substantial

¹A Southern Minnesota auxiliary, organized to handle the company's railroad lands.

²"A stranger standing on the steps of the

court house block one day last week counted forty-six teams engaged in breaking land. How is that for a new country?" Pipestone County Star, June 1879.

town. The newly established lumber yards were unable to supply the demands upon them, and the yards at Luverne were swamped with orders from Pipestone county.

Grasshoppers hatched out in 1879 and did some damage to the growing crops. During the month of July the pests arose and departed for good, and the Pipestone county wheat yield was up to the average for southwestern Minnesota. Blight injured the crop to some extent, and this, together with the fact that there had been grasshoppers in the county, tended to diminish the immigration during the fall months. During the year schools were started in different parts of the county,³ and in August a county jail was completed at a cost of \$340. It was erected by J. Pearson.

The most important events of the year 1879 were the building of two lines of railroad—the Southern Minnesota (now the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul), which built through the county, and the Minnesota and Black Hills (now a branch

of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha), which built from Heron Lake to the newly founded village of Woodstock.

Early in the year preparations were made for extending the Southern Minnesota west from Jackson along the route of the survey of 1870.⁴ The work was begun April 22, 1879. The permanent survey was run to Pipestone June 19, Charles H. Bennett granting the right of way and depot grounds of about twenty-eight acres to the company for one dollar. The grading contracts were let a few days later, and the rails were laid to Pipestone on Thanksgiving day, November 26. There was general rejoicing in that little city and a celebration in honor of the event. Prior to this time Luverne was the nearest railroad point, where trading was done and from which point it was necessary to haul all provisions, lumber, etc. Early in December the rails were laid entirely through the county and into Dakota territory, the line being completed to Flandreau on the first day of the

³The first school districts were organized as follows:

No. 1.—March 31, 1879. The west half of Gray township and eighteen sections on the east side of Sweet township.

No. 2. March 31, 1879. Osborne township.

No. 3.—April 26, 1879. All of Sweet township not included in district No. 1.

No. 4.—April 26, 1879. Grange township.

⁴So early as 1866 plans were made for building the Southern Minnesota from Houston, through Minnesota's southern tier of counties, to the west line of the state. The United States government granted large areas of land to the state of Minnesota to aid in the construction of railroads, and the state in turn gave these lands to the Southern Minnesota Railroad company, in consideration that it should extend its road to the west line of the state on or before February 25, 1877. Owing to financial embarrassment and the terrible grasshopper scourge, the railroad company was not able to complete its line, although it bullded a considerable distance to the westward, and many of the lands were about to revert to the state as forfeiture for non-compliance with the terms of the grant. For many long years the people of southern Minnesota had anxiously awaited the coming of this road, and petitions were poured into the legislature, asking that body to grant an extension of time for the completion of the work. On March 6, 1878, such an act was passed, transferring the lands of the government to the Southern Minnesota Extension company, on condition that the road be completed to Fannont before September 1, 1878, to Jackson before the close of the year

1879, and to the west line of the state before the close of the year 1880.

It was the original intention to build the road directly west from Jackson, passing through Worthington and Luverne, to Sioux Falls. The plans to this effect were so far matured in 1876 that Nobles county voted \$40,000 bonds as a subsidy, to be paid provided the road should be completed to Worthington before September 1, 1877. For financial reasons the road was not extended at that time, the Sioux City & St. Paul (Omaha) interests invaded the territory by building the branch road from Worthington to Sioux Falls, and the Southern Minnesota picked the route by way of Pipestone. Only by reason of the grasshopper scourge and the consequent financial stringency was the road saved for Pipestone county.

So late as 1878 it seems to have been the intention of the company to build by way of Worthington, and thence in a northwesterly direction to Pipestone county. The Jackson Republic of June 8, 1878, said: "It is still a question where the Southern Minnesota railroad will cross the Sioux City road, and we understand the company itself is undecided upon this point. The officers are already discussing the question and investigating the 'lay of the land.' We are quite certain it is the desire of the company to cross at Worthington, and if engineering obstacles do not intervene we are inclined to think that will be the point; then the road will strike a due northwest course for Pipestone county."

The Southern Minnesota was extended from Winnebago City to Jackson in the fall of 1878, and the work of continuing the construction westward was taken up early in 1879.

new year.⁵ When train service was established every train brought homeseekers to Pipestone county, and there was great activity. Pipestone grew into a thriving village and the new town of Edgerton took its place on the map—a town destined to become one of the county's most prosperous municipalities.

The Sioux City & St. Paul Railroad company resented the encroachment on what it considered its own territory by the extension of the Southern Minnesota to the northwest. In an effort to head off that road, the Sioux City & St. Paul officials organized the Minnesota & Black Hills Railroad company, and in May, 1879, made a hurried survey for a branch line from Heron Lake to Pipestone, paralleling the survey of the other road. Then began a lively race in construction. Side by side the construction crews of the two roads worked. At times violence was narrowly averted between the workmen, so bitter had become the strife between the two companies. It was admitted that it was a cut-throat policy to continue the building of the parallel roads, but neither would give in. Late in May a conference was held in St. Paul between representatives of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul (which controlled the Southern Minnesota) and Sioux City & St. Paul interests, when an attempt was made to come to an understanding and to reconcile differences. The conference served to make matters worse, and the work of construction on both roads was rushed to completion.

The permanent survey was made to Pipestone August 16, and a few days later grading was under way in the eastern part of Pipestone county. The track was completed to Woodstock in the fall, and that

was the terminus of the road for the next five years. The original intention was to build to Pipestone in 1879, and continue the line the next year. To construct this branch road the Sioux City & St. Paul Railway company mortgaged the right-of-way, depot grounds and rolling stock.

There were many newcomers in 1880, who selected homes and added to the development of the country. An excellent crop was raised, but because of inclement weather during the harvest season and the early arrival of winter, it was not a profitable one. The census, taken early in the summer of 1880, gave Pipestone county a population of 2092. This was an excellent showing, in view of the fact that two and one-half years before the population had been, probably, less than fifty. By precincts the population was as follows:

Altona	145
Burke	152
Eden	134
Elmer	125
Fountain Prairie	157
Gray	223
Grange	172
Osborne (including Edgerton).....	244
Pipestone village	222
Rock	103
Sweet	167
Troy	176
Township 108, range 44 (Aetna).....	72
Total	2092

Although the entire population might have been classed as old settlers, an Old Settlers society was organized March 15, 1880, with the following officers: D. E. Sweet, president; J. H. Nichols, secretary; H. D. Sanford, treasurer; vice presidents as follows: Mrs. C. H. Bennett for Sweet township, Mrs. W. J. Taylor for Gray, Mrs. C. O. Mahoney for Burke, C. E. McCall for Osborne, Mrs. J. D. Tyler for Elmer, Henry Nelson for Eden,

⁵"The Southern Minnesota Railway company was to have the rails laid to Flandreau today in order to get the \$10,000 bonus voted some time ago by that village. The supplies didn't come fast enough, so what did they do but tear

up about a mile of track west of this village, ties and all, and go into Flandreau with flying colors. The gap will be closed in a day or two."

—Pipestone County Star, January 1, 1880.

Mrs. E. Hatch for Rock, W. B. Brown for Grange, Mrs. A. J. Brown for Troy, George Hill for Altona, R. Link for Fountain Prairie.⁶

The long, cold, blizzardy winter of 1880-81 will never be effaced from the memory of those who were living in Pipestone county, and an account of the inconveniences, sufferings and hardships should have a place in the history of the county. The season had no precedent in the meteorological history of the northwest, and there has been none since to compare with it.

Winter began Friday, October 14. On the morning of that day there was a drizzling rain, which later turned to sleet, accompanied by a north wind. During the night the wind veered to the northwest and there was a heavy fall of snow. On the morning of the fifteenth the wind started to blow with the violence of a hurricane, and one of the famous blizzards raged. The snow was driven with awful violence and piled in places to a depth of eighteen or twenty feet, covering buildings, wagon roads and railroads. All day the blizzard raged with unabated fury and until two o'clock p. m. of the sixteenth. Fortunately, the weather was not extremely cold. No one was prepared for such a storm, and there was some suffering in the country. Stock was smothered to death in the huge drifts,⁷ and a great many families were without fuel. The

railroads were blockaded from Friday night until the next Wednesday, a passenger train on the Milwaukee road being wedged in a snowdrift east of Edgerton for four days. There was a big demand for fuel, with none on the market and no trains to bring in any.

During the month following this initial storm the snow did not disappear and the weather was cold, but was not punctuated with wind storms. In the first half of November the drifting snow again closed the railroads, but after two days' labor they were opened and traffic was resumed. The thermometer registered five degrees below zero November 15. Heavy snowfall on the twentieth and twenty-first closed the railroads again, but they were soon uncovered. On November 23 the thermometer showed twenty-three degrees below zero. The weather was comparatively pleasant until December 4, and on that day a train brought a supply of fuel to Pipestone dealers. From December 4 to 7, inclusive, the weather was cold and stormy, and during that time no trains reached Pipestone county. From then until Christmas there were occasional falls of snow, but no severe weather.

A blizzard raged continually five days, beginning on Christmas day, and the Milwaukee road did not get a train through until January 4. The Omaha branch line gave up the effort to keep the line open.

⁶The initial members of the society were D. E. Sweet, John Lowry, H. D. Sanford, A. D. Ferris, Joe H. Parker, Charles H. Bennett, R. Clark, L. D. Peck, A. G. Jenkins, J. W. Lewis, A. J. Brown, Samuel Harrison, W. B. Brown, Edwin Hatch, J. T. Suffron, I. I. Hart, J. C. Goodnow, C. W. Enlison, R. H. O'Connell, W. J. Taylor, Andrew O. Gray, George Feeney, H. J. Pratt, G. W. Huntley, A. L. Ely, James H. Enearl, R. H. Scarf, E. M. Carr, Mrs. Riley French, Mrs. D. Stuart, Mrs. W. B. Brown, Mrs. F. L. Pease, Kate B. Nichols, Mrs. J. C. Goodnow, Minnie M. Sherwin, Jessie Stuart, Mrs. Nellie Scarf, Mrs. Belle Brown, Polly G. Hatch, Mrs. F. B. Colson, Lucy J. Carr, Adelaide G. Bennett, James E. Craig, Asa Van Allstine, Riley French, J. I. Bernard, H. Montville, Duncan, Stuart, Gertrude F. Ferris, Jennie S. Taylor, Meda L. Clark, Flora B. Sanford, S. L. Bailey, Jr., E. W. Davies, D. M. Stuart.

Joel Forbes, George D. Green, Thomas Burnham, E. L. Rork, Helen J. Huntley, C. C. Palmer, James D. Kelley, Ralph J. Wiger, C. E. McCall.

⁷C. E. McCall, of Osborne township, had engaged to herd a large drove of cattle and colts during the season ending October 1. The season having been favorable, many had not called for their stock at the time of the blizzard. The storm caused the animals to break down the corral and they sought shelter under the banks of Poplar creek, close by, the creek banks being already filled with the drifting snow. Some of the stock plunged into the stream and were drowned; others were suffocated in the huge drifts along the banks. When the snow melted some of the colts were found to have been smothered to death standing upright or on their hind feet only.

and there were no trains run the rest of the winter.⁸

Following is the story of the rest of the winter in bulletin form:

January 4. Rain and sleet.

January 5. Terrific blizzard, Milwaukee railroad covered.

January 6-13. Thermometer almost stationary—25 degrees below day times, 35 below nights. Fuel scarce.

January 18. Railroad cleared, but no trains run.

January 19. Snow storm. Railroad blocked.

January 20-22. Continual blizzard.⁹

January 24. People of Pipestone and Flandreau raised money and had ten days' mail brought in from Fulda, where it was tied up in the blockade.

January 26. Blizzard.

January 31. Heavy fall of snow.

February 1. After a four days' trip, Superintendent Egan and Roadmaster Rafferty succeeded in getting three trains run from Fulda to Pipestone, bringing seventeen days' mail and a supply of fuel.

February 3. Passenger train left Pipestone for the east and remained in a snow bank east of Edgerton several weeks. Last train of the winter.

February 3-7. Five days' almost continual blizzard from the southeast.¹⁰

February 11-12. One of the worst storms of the winter. Thermometer 20 below zero.

February 15. Thermometer 30 below.

February 17. Public schools throughout the county closed, except the Edgerton district, No. 2, which continued throughout the

winter. Scarcity of fuel and provisions a serious matter. Burning bridge timbers.¹¹

February 18. Blizzard.

February 22. Short, fierce blizzard.

February 23. Kerosene exhausted. Fuel situation grave. Burning lumber and railway ties. Railroad coal burned at Woodstock.¹²

February 24. Snowfall.

February 25-26. Blizzard from the northwest with thermometer 25 degrees below zero.

February 26. A few sacks of mail brought in by team from Flandreau after a stormy trip.

March 1. Railroad ties all burned and people try burning blacksmith's coal.¹³

March 2. Storm from the northeast.

March 4. One of the worst blizzards of the winter. Snow piled in drifts fifteen feet deep. Stock suffered severely.

March 5-9. Mild weather.

March 11-12. Terrible blizzard from the east. Heaviest snowfall of the winter. Live stock suffered. Lumber and outbuildings the only fuel.¹⁴

March 14. Blizzard.

March 15. Stock reported dying in north part of county for lack of feed.

March 24. Hundreds of men working to open the Milwaukee road. Several days of mild weather with snow melting.

March 31. Blizzard without much loose snow. Thermometer 13 degrees below zero.

April 1. Part of Milwaukee line opened but no trains to Pipestone county.

April 8. Heavy snowfall. Railroad covered.

April 10. Handful of letter mail brought

⁸"Last week's storm beats the oldest inhabitant. An occasional blizzard is not unusual out here, but when it keeps up a five days' blow with the thermometer ranging from 25 to 40 degrees below zero, it would seem as though winter had fairly set in."—Pipestone County Star, January 6, 1881.

⁹"Last Friday and Saturday [January 21 and 22] were two of the most trying days we have had this winter. From early morning Friday until midnight Saturday the wind blew a perfect gale from the northwest, piling snow in all sorts of shapes. Fortunately it was not so cold as it has been, the thermometer marking ten degrees above zero during the storm. All cuts on the railroads are again piled full, and just when we will get a train is hard to tell. As yet we have heard of no suffering out here on the prairies."—Star, January 27, 1881.

¹⁰"For four days the wind blew a perfect gale from the southeast and with the exception of not being so cold as it has been, this was by far the hardest storm we have had this season. The late snow storm cut off communication from every direction. Drifts eight and ten feet deep of solid wet snow, through which no team can pass, are plentiful on the prairie roads. Up to this date very few teams have been out."—Star, February 10, 1881.

¹¹"A large number of piles shipped here by the railway company for bridge purposes have been sold during the past week for firewood by Station Agent Cawley under instructions from Superintendent Egan. A large number of peo-

ple have also been burning sills and other heavy timbers from the lumber yards."—Star, February 17, 1881.

¹²"The price of common lumber has been greatly reduced when it is needed for fuel. The railroad company has supplied this station with several carloads of ties for firewood. They were eagerly seized by the inhabitants at thirty-five cents apiece. . . . George W. Nash, the station agent at Woodstock, was bound that none of the settlers around there should suffer for want of fuel and very kindly threw open the coal bins of the railroad company and supplied all who made application. . . . The railroad company should see to it that fuel is brought to this place on the first train in preference to anything else. A carload of hard coal, two of soft, and four or five cars of wood will find a rapid sale."—Star, February 24, 1881.

¹³"Nobody starved or frozen to death in Pipestone county yet. This is more than some older counties can say, where fuel and provisions have been in abundance."—Star, March 3, 1881.

¹⁴"Lumber has been reduced \$5.00 per thousand feet for fuel. It is now cheaper than basswood."—Star, March 19, 1881.

" . . . Called at Mr. Foster's, Eden township, and found him with very sore eyes brought on by the blinding snow. He informed me that during the last blizzard he had been compelled to burn the kitchen part of his house."—Correspondence in Rock County Herald, April 1, 1881.

overland from Luverne. Last letter dated February 18. Stocks of kerosene and candles exhausted.

April 11. Extraordinarily heavy snowfall and blizzard. Drifts mountain high. No prospects for train.¹⁵

April 12. Snow drifting.

April 13. Thermometer at zero.

April 19. First rain of spring.

April 21. Snow shovelers busy uncovering the railroad. Star issues its last "blizzard edition."

April 26. Blockade lifted. First train since February 1 pulled into Pipestone.¹⁶ Merchants supplied with sugar, kerosene, etc.

Washouts on the railroad, caused by the floods, delayed the operation of trains for several days after the blockade was lifted, and it was not until the first day of May that regular train service was again established. During the month of May most of the 1880 crop of grain was threshed, but some was left until later in the season.

Over twelve and one-half feet of snow fell during the winter. In places the drifts were very deep, and for months some farmers entered their stables through the roofs; others tunnelled passageways through the snow from their houses to the stables and for weeks at a time did not go above the surface to do their chores. In places the snow remained on the ground until late in the spring.¹⁷

Owing to the floods and the backward

¹⁵"On Monday, April 11, 1881, one of the heaviest blizzards we had experienced during the winter raged with unabated fury, filled up all the cuts on the railway that had taken so many days of hard labor to shovel out, and piling the snow mountain high in some places."—Star, April 13, 1882.

¹⁶"On Tuesday evening [April 26] the first train that has reached here since the first of February pulled up at our station. Of course the people were glad to see it and many of them went to the depot to welcome the boys who have fought nobly for months to break their way through the snow blockade. . . . Between here and Fulda the road is now comparatively safe, but east of that point there are one or two washouts that will take two or three days yet to repair. West of here, we are told, the washouts are much more serious and no trains will get to Dell Rapids for some time to come. . . . The snow blockade is raised for this season at least."—Star, April 28, 1881.

spring, the crop of 1881 was a failure, and there was little material advancement. An event of the year was the establishment of the Pipestone county district court, which was authorized by the legislature of 1881. The first term of court was convened in Pipestone October 18 and was presided over by Judge M. J. Severance. Court was held in the second story of the C. H. Bennett building, where rooms had been rented from him for county and court offices by the county commissioners. There were eighteen cases on the docket. The attorneys in attendance were E. C. Dean and Burt Newport, of Pipestone, and Charles Butts, C. W. Stiles and E. E. Sterling, of Lake Benton. Riley French was foreman and John Stuart clerk of the first grand jury empanelled in the county.¹⁸

Conditions were greatly improved in 1882. The Milwaukee road placed its Pipestone county lands on the market, installing M. E. Duff as resident manager, and quite a number of immigrants located in the county. A good crop of grain was raised, and the country took on a more prosperous air than it had the year before. The acreage sown in 1882, as shown by the records, and the estimated yield in bushels were as follows:

¹⁷"On May 20 S. Y. Sichler, of Elmer township, reported that there was a large quantity of snow still on his place. In the latter part of June a snowball battle was fought on the Samuel Avery farm east of Pipestone, the snow having been found in abundance in a sheltered place. In July snow was brought to Pipestone from Hatfield and exhibited.

¹⁸The jurors were as follows:

Grand—Edwin Hatch, Justice Hathaway, John Murphy, James Hamilton, Riley French, S. Price, George Krapf, Caleb Heath, H. Dickey, D. R. Woodman, J. M. Chute, C. H. Wilkins, John Stuart, George Walkup, William Ludke, L. Ackerman, G. W. Huntley, John Hypes, Thomas Dixon, Mathias Heck, R. S. Wilkins, L. J. Clayton and Thomas Thompson.
Petit—T. E. Nesbit, C. E. McCall, Charles Kingsbury, W. F. Tibbetts, Edwin Giles, J. H. Conlin, F. McClellin, A. F. Stillwell, S. D. Fisher, S. J. Perkins, I. C. Bertrand, J. G. Bennett, George M. Wright, M. M. Gunsolus, William Foster, W. W. Sweet, E. R. Wood, C. M. Taylor, F. A. Converse, A. C. Lincoln, A. A. Pike, J. L. Odell, John Clark and Frank Montville.

GRAIN	Acres	Bushels	Average
Wheat.....	10,911	196,398	18
Oats.....	5,431	271,600	50
Corn.....	4,250	106,250	25
Barley.....	1,960	58,800	30
Rye.....	1,300	32,500	25
Flax.....	7,860	102,180	13
Buckwheat.....	105		
Potatoes.....	322		
Tame Hay.....	122		
TOTAL.....	32,334	767,828	

The total assessed valuation for 1882 was \$457,001, of which \$171,485 was for real estate and \$285,519 for personal property. In the county were 1241 horses, 1687 cattle, 73 mules, 167 sheep and 707 hogs.

A destructive hail and wind storm passed over a narrow strip of country on June 16, 1882, and the following day a wind of cyclonic proportions brought damage to another part of the county. The path of the hail storm was about two miles wide. It extended from the northwestern part of the county southeasterly, passing about two miles north of Pipestone and a short distance north of Edgerton. In the path of the storm the grain was completely destroyed, the greatest damage being in Troy and Grange townships. On the evening of the seventeenth a cyclone, which farther on its course brought great damage in central Iowa, formed just north of Pipestone

and swept down the Rock river valley. In the vicinity of Edgerton the farm houses of E. W. Day, Thomas Butterfield, George Waite and Mr. Ulm were demolished.

By far the most important event of 1882 was the purchase by the South Minnesota Land company of over 100,000 acres of Southern Minnesota railroad lands within Pipestone county.¹⁹ The deal was completed in September, when a check for \$446,000, comprising the last payment, was turned over to the Milwaukee officials. Close Bros. & Co., who had operated extensively in railroad lands in northwestern Iowa, were interested largely in the company and were the American managers. They had a reputation for doing big things in the matter of developing the country and promised a boom for Pipestone county. They did not begin operations in 1882, but let it be known that the following year they would begin work.²⁰

Early in the spring of 1883 Close Bros. & Co. began the work of developing their new lands. In consideration of establishing the firm's headquarters at Pipestone and many promised improvements in that city and surrounding country, the Englishmen demanded a bonus of one hundred town lots and an undivided half interest in a two hundred acre tract adjoining the town on the north, all the property of C. H. Bennett. After some delay the demands were complied with,²¹

¹⁹The South Minnesota Land company was incorporated in England with a capital stock of £250,000. It was formed, according to the articles of incorporation, for the purpose of taking over and reselling 102,773 acres of land in Pipestone county, 1642 acres in Rock county, and 105,000 acres of other land owned by the Sioux City & St. Paul Land company.

²⁰The firm of Close Bros. & Co. was at the time the largest land dealer in the world. During the period of operation in Pipestone county the firm was composed of James B. Close, William B. Close and S. H. Graves, sons of wealthy Manchester, England, manufacturers. They were all well educated young men of great activity and ability and famous throughout England for their aquatic victories in the Cambridge university boat crew.

The investment in and development of Iowa and Minnesota lands was indirectly the result of a visit of William B. Close to the Centennial

exposition at Philadelphia in 1876. The partners purchased many thousands of acres of land in northwestern Iowa and established headquarters at LeMars, Iowa, in the late seventies.

The decision to invest in the Pipestone county lands was brought about by representations of a few of the pioneer settlers of the county, who broached the subject to the partners, and a very brief visit of James B. Close in 1879. He secured samples of corn raised in the county (when there were only three cornfields in the whole of Pipestone county), sent them to England, and as a result the English capitalists back of Close Bros. gave their authority for the purchase of the Milwaukee lands in Pipestone county.

²¹Close Bros. & Co. threatened, in case the bonus was not granted, to establish their headquarters at Hatfield or Airlie and to build up those towns in preference to Pipestone.

the citizens of Pipestone reimbursing Mr. Bennett for his lands by deeding him other town lots. On April 13, 1883, a contract was signed by Close Bros. & Co. (at the time consisting of James B. Close, William B. Close, Frederick B. Close and C. W. Benson) and Mr. Bennett, by the terms of which, in consideration of the land deeded, the land firm agreed to: First, remove the general headquarters of the firm from LeMars, Iowa, to Pipestone and to erect a headquarters building there; second, to build in Pipestone a hotel at a cost of \$11,000; third, to erect forty farm residences in Pipestone county; fourth, to use its utmost endeavor to secure settlers for Pipestone county and to try to secure for Pipestone additional railroad facilities. Headquarters were at once established in Pipestone, and the terms of the contract were entirely fulfilled.²²

The development of the railroad lands was commenced at once. The first train load of lumber for Close Bros. & Co.'s buildings arrived July 1, 1883, and the rest of the summer and fall was spent in erecting the buildings.²³ The lands were cut up into half-section farms, on each of which were erected a substantial and neat five-room, story and a half, 16x24 feet house, 16x16 feet granary and a barn of size sufficient to hold eight horses. Breaking was also done on each of the farms improved by buildings. At the beginning of their operations in Pipestone county, Close Bros. & Co., English-fashion, preferred to rent to tenants, and derive only an income from their investment, in preference to the profits of sales. Within a short time, however, they put the lands on the market. The wild lands sold at from \$8.00 to \$10.00 per acre and the

improved farms at \$12.00 to \$18.00. Liberal terms of payment were arranged. The purchaser was required to pay down \$1.00 per acre and the balance in equal installments extending over a period of ten years. Actual settlers who made improvements on the land did not pay interest for the first five years. Concerning the operations of Close Bros. & Co. the Pipestone County Star of September 20, 1883, said:

Undoubtedly Pipestone City and county owe the largest share of credit for their recent progress and present prosperity to Close Bros. & Co., the enterprising and well known land dealers. They have done ten times more than any single firm—and probably as much as all the real estate firms combined—to get the rich lands of this splendid section in the market and attract settlers. Their plan is either to sell the lands direct to purchasers or to erect comfortable buildings and rent the farms to tenants. They transact a very extensive business and are doing magnificent service in the work of development, attracting a desirable class of immigrants and bringing the lands into cultivation so that they may become taxable property. The Close Bros. will, inside of a few years, make this entire section a veritable garden spot. In Pipestone county alone Close Bros. & Co. have 125,000 acres of the richest and most valuable land in Minnesota, which they are preparing to open up. A large number of farm houses, barns, etc., will be erected by Close Bros. & Co. during the present summer and fall, and several thousand acres of land will be broken up.

And six years later, June 14, 1889:

The firm have given to Pipestone county and Pipestone City a push forward, such, we venture to say, as no other community in the west of the same age has enjoyed. The many thousands of dollars that they have spent in advertising alone has had the effect to render the locality famous the country over, and a consequence is that a steady stream of immigration is now flowing into the county; homes are being created, and the wilderness of a few years ago "blossoms as the rose."

The year 1883 was the most prosperous one in Pipestone county's history up to

²²The agreement was released April 10, 1884, each party acknowledging that the terms of the contract were fulfilled.

²³While there is so much building going on in town it must be remembered that the country round about is also building up. The prairies as far as the eye can reach in any direction from town are dotted with new houses."—Pipestone County Star, July 19, 1883.

that time. In one year the assessed valuation more than doubled, the total amount being \$1,103,368, of which \$816,974 was for real estate and \$286,394 for personal property. According to a statement by the state commissioner of statistics, the acreage sown to the several crops, the yield in bushels and average per acre were as follows: Wheat, 11,080 acres, yield, 198,597 bushels, average per acre, 17.90 bushels; oats, 8318 acres, yield, 304,690 bushels, average per acre, 36.65 bushels; corn, 1392 acres, yield 43,230 bushels, average per acre, 31 bushels; barley, 9686 acres, yield, 87,394 bushels, average per acre, 9 bushels.

The first county fair was held September 29, 1883. Although only a few days' notice was given, there were many entries and the affair was pronounced a grand success. It was held in the open, no admission was charged, and no premiums were offered. The cattle exhibit was an especially good one. The management of the fair was largely in the hands of E. A. Rice, A. D. Ferris and H. E. Corbett.²⁴

The year 1884 was a remarkable one in the history of Pipestone county by reason of the rapid advancement and development and the building of new railroads. During the entire twelve-month the principal topic of conversation was railroads, bonuses, bonds, right-of-way. As a result of the activity, the Omaha branch line was extended to Pipestone and the Burlington road (now the Rock Island) was built through the county. These accessions were secured only through the

active work and liberality of the people of Pipestone county.²⁵

The extension of the Omaha line from Woodstock, which had been the terminus since 1879, to Pipestone was brought about through the efforts of Pipestone people. Early in January, 1884, a delegation consisting of Fred Close, C. H. Bennett, J. H. Nichols, L. H. Moore, A. L. Ely, H. D. Sanford and C. C. Goodnow visited the officials of the Omaha railroad at St. Paul and made the necessary arrangements. The railway authorities demanded a free right-of-way and depot grounds in Pipestone, and these the Pipestone delegation promised. In February subscription papers were put in circulation, and within a short time the necessary funds were secured. Many of the land owners donated the right-of-way across their farms, and the rest was purchased by money raised by subscription. Grading was commenced on the extension May 8, tracklaying begun July 1, and before the close of that month the line was completed. The first passenger train was operated over the line August 1.

Early in the year came also the promise of two new lines of road through the county, each with a "proposition." These were the Burlington, which proposed to build through the county southeast to northwest, and the Duluth, North Shore & Southwestern, which was to have built a line north and south. The people of Pipestone county were not at that period overlooking any opportunity to better their conditions, even if it cost money,

²⁴The judges of the several exhibits were as follows: Grain and farm produce, J. D. Tyler, Samuel Avery and A. N. Ferris; art and needle work, Mrs. G. W. Morrill, Mrs. S. L. Bailey and Mrs. A. J. Brown; stock, Duncan Stuart, Edward Ewert and H. D. Sanford.

²⁵Pipestone City and Pipestone county were fortunate in having as residents in the early days an exceptionally progressive class of men—men who never let an opportunity pass to advance the interests of the community. They were a liberal minded class of people and worked

together for the common good. Some of them were not rich in this world's goods, but they were imbued with a love of their county and city to such an extent that whenever there was opportunity to secure some benefit they took off their coats and worked to secure it with as much vim as they put into their private business. Among others who were in the forefront of every battle for the good of the community were D. E. Sweet, C. H. Bennett, Dr. W. J. Taylor, L. H. Moore, C. C. Goodnow, J. H. Nichols, T. A. Black, E. W. Davies and H. D. Sanford.

and bonds for both roads were promptly voted.²⁶

For some time there had been rumors that the Burlington road was to extend through Pipestone county. In the fall of 1883 surveyors in the employ of a company styled the Spirit Lake & Western Railway company ran a line from Sibley, Iowa, to Pipestone and then returned. During the following winter it became known that the Cedar Rapids, Iowa Falls & Northwestern Railway company, a subsidiary Burlington company, was planning an extension from Lake Park to Sibley and the north. On February 5, 1884, General Superintendent C. J. Ives and S. L. Dows, one of the directors of the Burlington company, attended a railroad mass meeting at Pipestone, at which over five hundred people were present. They asked for \$25,000 in bonds, to be paid providing the road should be completed through Pipestone county by January 1, 1885. Close Bros. & Co. offered to donate the right-of-way across their lands, and the meeting was enthusiastically in favor of accepting the proposition.

Petitions were at once prepared, asking for the submission of the question to a vote in all the precincts except the four eastern townships.²⁷ Special elections were called for March 3, 4 and 5, when each precinct, with the exception of Altona, voted to issue the township and village bonds. Following was the amount of bonds each precinct was asked to vote and the result of the election:

PRECINCT	Bonds Asked	For Bonds	Against Bonds
Altona	\$2800	26	27
Elmer	2900	30	0
Eden	1500	32	21
Fountain Prairie...	1500	30	5
Grange	2500	35	0
Gray	3200	33	6
Pipestone	5000	159	0
Sweet	3400	39	3
Troy	2200	43	2
TOTAL.....	\$25,000	427	64

The route of the Burlington road was surveyed in April and May, and grading was begun in early summer. Material was shipped to Pipestone on the other railroads and grading and track-laying for the north part of the road were begun from that city. Another construction crew worked from the south, and the connection was made at Pipestone September 22. The first passenger train passed over the line two days later, and regular passenger service was begun October 28. As a result of the construction of the new road the village of Trosky was founded and parts of the county which had theretofore been long distances from market were more rapidly developed.

Early in January, 1884, came the proposition of the Duluth, North Shore & Southwestern Railway company. R. D. Mallett, the vice president, arrived in Pipestone and stated that his company would build the road to Pipestone for a consideration of bonds to the amount of five per cent of the county's assessed valuation (about \$40,000). Before the matter had proceeded far it was learned that

²⁶"There has been no one question that has so agitated the minds of the people of Pipestone county since the county was organized as that now presented to them regarding the voting of aid for the new lines of railroad that evince a disposition to build through the county. Nearly everybody is discussing it, and well they may, for we are now at the most important point in the history of the county, a point where the people have it in their hands to build up an era of prosperity, or create a period of depression in the value of lands, houses and other property that constitute the wealth of the county."—Pipestone County Star, February 19 1884.

²⁷"At the same time the question of voting bonds to aid the Duluth road was under consideration. It was found that the bonds would not be legally voted if the two propositions were decided at one election, and doubt was expressed as to their legality if county bonds were voted on both propositions. The matter was submitted by the representatives of the railway companies to a committee of Pipestone county citizens. That committee decided that in order to conform strictly to the law, the Burlington proposition should be voted upon by townships and in case of a successful outcome township bonds should be issued, while the Duluth proposition should be voted upon by the county as a whole and in case of a successful outcome, county bonds should be issued.

the Burlington would soon be asking for a bond issue. As there was a legal barrier to issuing bonds to a greater amount than five per cent of the assessed valuation and the people of Pipestone county looked with favor upon the Burlington road also, at a mass meeting held in Pipestone January 14 it was decided to take the necessary steps to bring to a vote the question of issuing bonds to the amount of \$30,000 only. A little later the amount decided on was cut to \$25,000, and when the question came to a vote the amount was reduced to \$20,000. This also seemed to satisfy the promoters of the paper road, who agreed to have the railroad in operation to Pipestone by December 1, 1885. The election was held March 10, with the following result:

PRECINCT	For Bonds	Against Bonds
Aetna	16	0
Altona	33	6
Burke	13	43
Eden	46	0
Elmer	34	1
Fountain Prairie.....	28	1
Grange	47	0
Gray	34	1
Osborne	10	79
Pipestone City	174	1
Rock	25	9
Sweet	49	2
Troy	47	2
TOTAL.....	556	145

²⁸Eight tons of advertising matter were distributed in the United States alone, besides much to foreign countries. The enterprising land firm shipped their lumber in by special trains, covered with banners setting forth the advantages of Pipestone county. The Pipestone County Star of June 10, 1884, said:

"If any one thinks that Pipestone is not well advertised, let him ride from here to Chicago over the Milwaukee road. There is not a train

Although the bonds were voted, they were never issued. In May came the announcement that the work of surveying had been discontinued, that the Duluth, Lake Shore & Southwestern Railway company was without funds, that the road would not be constructed.

The construction of railroads, the extensive advertising campaign of Close Bros. & Co.,²⁸ and the abundant crops made the year 1884 a banner one in Pipestone county's history. There was a large increase in population, many new business enterprises were started, and in all parts of the county material progress was made. Not in the early days was there a year to compare with 1884. Seventeen thousand acres of land and 560 town lots were sold, the total consideration for which was \$169,240. This did not include the farm lands which were sold under contract, which reached a value equal to the deed transfers, making the total real estate transactions nearly \$350,000. The acreage sown to wheat in 1884 was 16,451, to oats, 9462.

These statistics indicate that at last Pipestone county had come upon better times. Excellent crops and a large immigration brought the county rapidly to the front.

but what bears circulars describing the beauties of this glorious country, and they are distributed far and wide. If people do not know where to find a good permanent home, in a land where milk and honey flow free to all who wish to partake, it will not be the fault of the great land firm of Close Bros. & Co., who have expended so far this season in the neighborhood of ten thousand dollars in printed matter."

CHAPTER XXII.

CURRENT EVENTS—1885-1911.

THE good times period which began in the early eighties continued without interruption until the panic of 1893. Each year witnessed the arrival of new settlers, the building of new homes, the further development of the county, the passing of pioneer days and ways. A reliable indication of the progress or retrogression of a community are the census returns, and Pipestone county made an excellent showing in the five-year period, 1880 to 1885, nearly doubling in population. The enumeration in 1885 showed a population of 4051, divided by precincts as follows:

Aetna	78
Altona	255
Burke	292
Eden	264
Elmer	232
Fountain Prairie	168
Grange	201
Gray	188
Osborne (including Edgerton)	464
Pipestone	1109
Rock	145
Sweet	274
Troy	381
Total	4051

The year 1885, particularly, was one of advancement. Close Bros. & Co., who had in the two preceding years spent many thousand dollars advertising their Pipestone county lands, then began to reap

their reward in sales. Many who purchased that year did not locate on their lands until the next season, but some of them erected buildings, and nearly all broke their lands.¹ A large part of the sales of the year were in the townships of Troy, Sweet and Eden. The contract sales by Close Bros. & Co. amounted to \$250,000, while the value of real estate transferred by deed was \$242,257, making a total of nearly a half million dollars. Nearly all of these sales were to new arrivals and actual settlers. At the close of the year the local paper said: "The year just closed has been one of the greatest prosperity for Pipestone and the county at large. The improvements throughout the county have been more numerous and our farmers have done more than in any previous year since the county was organized."

Good crops were the rule in 1885, as they were during all the years of the late eighties, and in 1886 several hundred families who had bought lands the year before moved on their property; others came and invested in the cheap lands in order to share in the prevailing prosperity. The leading land firm made extraordinary exertions in 1887, and during the year sold over 140,000 acres of its

¹"The Star is more than pleased to record the fact that more improvements, in the way of farm buildings, are going on in Pipestone county this season than ever before. More sod is being

turned over than ever before and the prairies are alive with teams and plows." Pipestone County Star, May 12, 1885.

lands in Minnesota, Iowa and Kansas, of which nearly 20,000 acres were in Pipestone county. At the close of that year the firm had disposed of about one-half of its Pipestone county holdings. Many substantial building improvements were made in the county during the twelve-month.

The history of Pipestone county would be incomplete without an account of the terrible blizzard of January 12, 1888, and of the adventures of Pipestone county residents in the storm. The blizzard was an event in the history of the northwest. So suddenly and unexpectedly did it envelop the country, changing in a moment from a warm, spring-like snow storm into a howling, icy blizzard, that there was no time to escape its fury for those unprepared. All over the northwest there was great loss of life and property. That Pipestone county should have escaped without the loss of a life is miraculous, it being the only community in southwestern Minnesota that did. There was a big loss of stock and many cases of severe freezing and narrow escapes, but no human being perished within the county.

For three weeks prior to the storm the weather was cold and boisterous. Immediately preceding it were a few days of damp weather with a heavy snowfall. On January 12 the air was as quiet and serene as a May-day until half past four o'clock in the afternoon. Then without a

moment's warning the wind whipped to the northwest, the thermometer dropped to the vicinity of the thirties, and the most terrible of winter storms that ever visited Pipestone county in white man's knowledge was raging. The air seemed filled with all the snow banks of the country, and the icy wind, blowing with terrific force, seemed to come from all directions, almost like a cyclone. Not a person in Pipestone county away from shelter when the storm struck reached a refuge without danger to his life. The storm continued in its awful fury all night and into the next day.

Even on the village streets people lost their bearings and had to grope their way in the storm; no one who was exposed to the fury of that storm will ever forget its terrors. Fortunately few farmers were in town, and to this circumstance is doubtless due the fact that there was no loss of life, for of the scores who met death in the storm in other parts of the country nearly all were farmers on their way home from town. The blizzard struck at the time of day it was customary for farmers to drive their stock to water, and most of the severe freezing in Pipestone county fell to the lot of those engaged in this chore. To this is also attributed the great loss of cattle in Pipestone county.

Pipestone county's fourth railroad was built in 1888, giving the county a greater railroad mileage than most any other

In Osborne township Mr. Heimbaugh lost eight head of cattle and was severely frost-bitten about the face and hands in his efforts to save them. J. M. Butts, of the same township, lost twelve head of stock. Elmer Hatch, of Rock township, lost sixty head.

Joseph Simpson's two sons had quite an experience at their home in Fountain Prairie township. They were watering the cattle when the storm struck, which caused the stock to stampede with the wind. The boys started in pursuit, but within a few minutes were completely lost. They wandered about on the prairie for an hour or more and finally came to the house of August Zacher, where they spent the night. Of the herd of ten cattle, eight were frozen to death.

John Cooley, the mail carrier between Lake Benton and Pipestone, became lost in the storm, released his team, and spent the night in a snowdrift. He escaped with light injury.

Near Airie, Andrew Birch and his little son

were overtaken by the storm while driving the cattle to water, and, although only a few rods from home, were unable to find their way in the awful storm. Mr. Birch unhitched the team he was driving, overturned the sleigh, and for sixteen hours he and his son remained in the shelter thus afforded. Mr. Birch was severely frozen. Of the fifteen head of cattle only four survived the storm.

Knute Olsen, who resided near Airie, spent three hours in the storm before he found shelter. He was quite badly frozen.

Messrs. Gundvaldsen and Anderson, of Eden township, were caught in the blizzard while on their way home from Pipestone. Finding themselves unable to proceed, they unhitched the horses and set out on foot for shelter. Failing to find a house, they took refuge in a straw pile and there spent the awful night. The next morning they made their way to a nearby house. Their hands and faces were badly frost-bitten.

The school teacher of district No. 26, Miss

county in the state of equal area.³ The preliminary steps toward the building of what is now the Great Northern railroad through the county were taken locally in the spring of 1886. Backed by the Manitoba railroad interests, of which James J. Hill was the guiding genius, the Willmar & Sioux Falls Railroad company was organized at Pipestone March 3, 1886. The organization was made by residents of southwestern Minnesota, acting as agents for the Manitoba interests. The officers and directors chosen at the meeting were J. M. Spicer, of Willmar, president; D. E. Sweet, of Pipestone, vice president; C. C. Goodnow, of Pipestone, secretary; C. B. Taylor, of Marshall, treasurer; J. G. Schulz, of Marshall; H. T. Carson, of Sioux Falls.⁴ The information was given out that Mr. Hill was the promoter of the new road, that a proposition to issue county bonds as a subsidy would soon be submitted. A preliminary survey through

Pipestone county was made in April, and then activities for the year ceased.

Early in the spring of 1887 surveyors again operated in the county, and it became evident that the road would be built. The people of Sioux Falls and vicinity voted \$50,000 bonds to aid the new road; Lyon county, \$30,000; and Kandiyohi county, \$30,000. In May the promoters announced that they would have the grading completed through the county by January 1, 1888, and trains running by January 1, 1889, provided county bonds to the amount of \$30,000 be voted and the people assist in securing the right-of-way through the county. Committees were appointed to secure the right-of-way⁵ and petitions were circulated, asking for the calling of a special election to vote on the bond issue. The election was held June 20, 1887, and resulted in a big majority in favor of the bonds. The vote by precincts was as follows:

Nettie Smith, and three pupils were obliged to remain in the school house all night.

Edward McMahon and a companion, of Pipestone, were caught in the tempest at the fair grounds north of town. They became bewildered and dared not proceed. Fortunately, they came upon the abandoned claim shanty of C. C. Goodnow on the reservation and there spent the night. Being without a fire, they were obliged to walk the floor until morning to keep from freezing.

A short distance east of Woodstock, James Jackson lost over forty head of Polled Angus cattle, and he and his hired man nearly lost their lives in the storm trying to get the stock to shelter.

Walter Landus had considerable difficulty in driving from Woodstock to the farm of G. H. Perry, one mile north, and was able to hold the right course only by the shouts of the men at the farm, they having seen him coming.

Daniel Whigam, of Troy township, had a remarkable escape. He had driven his cattle, eighteen head, to the creek, about a half mile from his house, to water, and was getting ready to return with them when the wind shifted to the northwest. He made all haste, but the severity of the storm scattered the herd and it was impossible to gather them again and Mr. Whigam was compelled to look out for his life. In doing this he found he had all he could do, for in the excitement with the cattle he lost his bearings, and in the bewildering storm he realized he was indeed lost. Mr. Whigam told a Star reporter of his experience:

"Had any one told me I couldn't have gone to that creek and back again in any blizzard that ever raged, I should have had no hesitancy in calling him a liar. But this was not a blizzard; it was a tornado, a regular whirl - the wind coming from every direction at the same time and as cold as an iceberg. Hoping to recollect a barbed-wire fence near Mr. Warner's place, I struck out in what I thought was its direction. I wandered about for a long time, floundering in the snow, the storm seeming

ly increasing all the time, and it was with the greatest exertion that I kept my eyes from freezing over. I am not generally a praying man, but I did feel just then that a little prayer would relieve me some, and about that time, to my great joy, I struck the wire fence I was looking for, and you can bet I didn't let go of it until I was at Mr. Warner's house in safety, and in a short time reached home. But I shudder when I think how close I came to missing that which saved me. Had I wandered three rods further east I would have missed the fence and perished."

After reaching the Warner home, Mr. Whigam became anxious to get home, fearing his folks would start out in search of him and become lost. By the aid of a fence he succeeded in reaching O. T. Gilson's house, and then Theodore Plank's. From there, however, there was nothing to go by, so Mr. Plank and Mr. Whigam gathered armful of lath and binding twine, fastened one end of the twine to the house, and set out in the storm. Every few feet they stuck a lath in the snow and fastened the twine to it, that they might have a guide by which to return should they not locate Mr. Whigam's house. They proceeded in the right direction and were soon at Mr. Whigam's home.

³The county now has over one hundred miles of main line track.

⁴The transfer of the Willmar & Sioux Falls road to the Manitoba company was made in September, 1887.

⁵The commissioners appointed to assist in purchasing right-of-way were as follows: North of Pipestone, J. I. Bernard, George H. Gurley, H. E. Briggs, H. D. Sanford, W. McCarter, S. J. Perkins, R. Scarf, C. C. Goodnow, W. G. Arnold and John Pearson; south of Pipestone, A. D. Ferris, W. J. Taylor, William Hull, J. H. Morgan, W. W. Robey, A. E. Carnegie, W. G. Martine, H. P. Nelson, E. C. Dean and John Pearson.

PRECINCT	For Bonds	Against Bonds
Aetna	20	1
Altona	9	40
Burke	26	27
Eden	66	7
Elmer	24	36
Fountain Prairie.....	28	10
Grange	43	8
Gray	46	4
Osborne	15	64
Pipestone	264	4
Rock	23	11
Sweet	43	17
Troy.....	50	4
TOTAL.....	657	233

The result of the vote was duly celebrated in Pipestone.⁶ Grading was commenced on the road in Pipestone county September 16 and was continued until cold weather set in. This part of the work was resumed in April, 1888, and the track-layers, working from the north, laid the rails to Pipestone September 29, and to the new town of Jasper October 5. Train service was established north of Pipestone October 2.

The building of the railroad had a wholesome effect on Pipestone county. Three new villages, Jasper, Ruthton and Holland, were founded, and the northeastern part of the county, which theretofore had been thinly settled, was rapidly filled with homeseekers. Close Bros. & Co. and the other land dealers disposed of many acres of land, and during the

summer season several excursion trains were run to Pipestone county.⁷ Adding to the prevailing active times, one of the best crops of years was harvested.

It was the same story during the next few years. The country at large was enjoying an era of great prosperity, and Pipestone county kept pace with the general advance. There were abundant crop yields and prices were high. In 1890 many thousands of acres of land were sold to homeseekers, nearly four thousand acres being sold in small tracts by the leading land firm in one week.⁸ The population of the county in 1890 was 5132.⁹ An exceptional year of progress was 1891, when there were great additions to the population and many new farms opened. Close Bros. & Co. sold 26,000 acres of land during the spring and early summer months.

Pipestone county's last railroad was built in 1892, the Rock Island extension to Jasper. That part of the road from Trosky to the pink quarries, three miles northeast of Jasper, was constructed in 1890, and the citizens of Jasper had made several ineffectual attempts to have the road built to their town. On May 17, 1892, they voted \$2300 bonds as a subsidy, and in the fall the new railroad was completed to Jasper.

The decade of development was rudely interrupted by the panic of 1893. Fol-

season there is now no room for doubt, and another year will see the many new settlers moving here and putting up buildings all over the county."—Pipestone County Star, July 20, 1888.

"Pipestone county is not only growing fine crops this season, but is also increasing rapidly in population. Newcomers are arriving every day. They purchase farms and settle down to farming at once. There never has been a more prosperous outlook."—Pipestone County Star, July 4, 1890.

⁶"The demonstration in Pipestone Monday evening was the grandest that ever took place in the village. The bands were out, flags were flying from the house tops, bonfires were lighted, fireworks lit up the heavens, cannons (anvils) roared, the people marched, they sang, they cheered. Everybody was happy. Even the women and children took part in the enthusiasm. And the Pipestone people were not the only participants. Farmers flocked in from the country to get the returns, and there was not a town in the county but that was represented, and they one and all joined the jubilee, for they were as much interested in the result as the people of Pipestone. It was a mutual good time, was highly complimented by many strangers and land hunters in town that evening, and will long be remembered."—Pipestone County Star, June 24, 1887.

⁷"That Pipestone county will go far beyond any previous record in the way of land sales this

⁸By precincts as follows: Aetna, 147; Altona, 282; Burke (including Woodstock), 337; Eden, 476; Edgerton, 178; Elmer (including Trosky), 314; Fountain Prairie, 232; Grange, 308; Gray, 228; Jasper (in Pipestone county), 372; Osborne, 267; Pipestone, 1232; Rock, 150; Sweet, 241; Troy, 368.

lowed a year of crop failures and several years of low prices, and Pipestone county, in common with the whole country, passed through a period of depression.

On top of the other misfortunes came a cyclone on June 27, 1894, which left a trail of death, ruined crops and wrecked homes in a narrow strip of country in the townships of Sweet, Troy, Grange and Fountain Prairie. The cyclone formed in Eden township. About five o'clock in the afternoon a hard, straight wind storm entered the county just east of Jasper and demolished the buildings of the Jasper Stone company. No great damage was caused by the storm in Eden township, and not until the south line of Sweet township was reached did the cyclone develop. This was caused by the meeting of two storms. Out of the northwest came a severe storm, meeting the one from the south in the southern part of the county and forming the cyclone. The Farmers' Leader on the following day told of the view of the twister from Pipestone:

"The terror was seen approaching from the southeast, and as it reached the table land about five miles southwest of the city, it had assumed the usual funnel shape. . . . During the movement of the storm hundreds of people in town stood and watched the monster, every turn being visible to the naked eye, as would the passing of a wagon on the street. It was a perfectly formed, trunk-shaped cyclone of light color, beautiful to look upon, but terrible to think of its death dealing effects as it passed along."

On section 31, Sweet township, at the farm of Claud Johannsen, the first damage by the cyclone was done. There a large barn was demolished, machinery was broken, and all loose articles scattered promiscuously. The John Klensing farm on section 32 was the next place visited. The barn and two granaries were blown

down and the house was unroofed and blown from its foundation. When the storm struck, Mrs. Klensing and two children attempted to reach the cellar by way of an outer entrance, but were picked up by the twister, carried about twenty rods and dropped, not seriously injured, in a grove. Mr. Klensing and two children remained in the house, where he received slight injuries, being struck on the head by flying timbers. At the home of William Hoffman, one mile north, the barn and granary were demolished and the house badly racked. A little to the east of this place, an unoccupied residence on the farm of A. L. Jaycox was completely destroyed.

The storm lifted, but struck again with frightful violence at the home of William Hill, two miles west of Pipestone. Mr. and Mrs. Hill sought refuge in the cellar and were unharmed. The house, barn and granary were left a heap of ruins and the horses were killed. The cyclone lifted from the earth, traveled about a mile and a half in the air, and then came to earth on the farm occupied by G. F. Hicks in the valley of Pipestone creek. Here resulted the only death from the storm, Mrs. Hicks being the victim. Mr. Hicks, who had been working in the field, sought shelter in his barn just before the storm struck, and there also came Leonard Belmor, a neighbor; Mrs. Hicks was in the house alone. Mr. Hicks was about to start for the house when he saw the residence lifted by the awful force and dashed to the ground in a thousand pieces. The occupant was caught in the whirling wind, carried a distance of thirty rods to the north, and dashed to the ground near a grove of young trees. She was frightfully mangled and there was scarcely a stitch of clothing left on her body. She was taken to Pipestone and died a half hour after her arrival. The barn was demolished a

second after the house went, and Mr. Hicks and Mr. Belmor were seriously injured by the flying boards and timbers.

There was total destruction of property on the Jacob Armstrong farm, occupied by Herman Doms and family, a few rods southeast of the Hicks home. Seeing the storm approach, Mr. Doms sent his wife and their three children to the cellar, while he went upstairs to get his money. Glancing out of the window, he witnessed the destruction of the Hicks home and made haste to get to the cellar. He had barely reached it when the house was lifted into the air, whirled around in the air a few times like a sheet of paper might have been whirled, and deposited, a wreck, 200 feet from the foundation. The barn on the farm was demolished and the machinery was wrecked beyond repair.

The death-dealing funnel again rose, passed to the north over the Rock Island track, to the west of the Captain Flag farm, and struck with frightful violence at the northeast quarter of section 23, Troy township. At that corner were four buildings—a school house and the residences of A. B. Mahannah, Frank Plank and Mr. Brown. Of these buildings the house of Mr. Brown escaped by twenty feet, but all the others were destroyed. The school house was torn to pieces and the floor, to which remained attached some of the seats, was carried a long distance, over a grove of tall trees, and deposited right side up in a grain field. Mr. Arthur and family, who occupied the Plank house, sought refuge in the cellar and were not harmed, although the house was completely destroyed. Mrs. Mahannah was at home with her four children. When she saw the storm approaching she decided to take the children outdoors, there being no cellar, but was unable to open the door against the strong wind. She then gathered the children about her and sat

upon the floor. The cyclone tore the house literally to pieces. The building was lifted by the mighty force and crashed back to earth; again it was taken into the air and hurled with Titanic violence against the barn, completely wrecking both buildings. Amid the storm of flying missiles, the members of the family were struck many times. The cook stove fell over upon Mrs. Mahannah, breaking one of her limbs, and she was badly cut about the head and breast. Notwithstanding these serious injuries, she held pluckily to her two youngest children, both of whom were more or less injured. None of the injuries proved fatal.

Again the whirling demon left the earth and thereafter in Pipestone county only occasionally came down to do material damage. On the northwest quarter of section 15, Grange township, one of the largest barns in the county, the property of Robert Wilkinson, was destroyed. In Fountain Prairie township the large barn of Mr. Sierks was reduced to kindling wood, and there was done the last damage in the county. Concerning the damage done by the cyclone, the *Jasper Journal* of June 29, 1894, said: "The path of the cyclone varied in width from 300 to 500 feet, all along the way marked by utter devastation. Crops are destroyed, buildings blown to splinters, farm machinery demolished, groves ruined and stock killed. The ground traversed by the storm was left as barren of vegetation as burnt prairie."

While the cyclone was operating in the west and north parts of the county, another hard storm brought damage in the south-central portion, doing slight damage at Trosky, damaging a barn on the Long farm, two miles south of Pipestone, and wrecking the floral hall, judges' stand, cattle sheds and pens at the county fair



MAIN STREET, PIPESTONE



PART OF SIMON MIX POST, NO. 95

From a Photograph Taken at Pipestone on Memorial Day, 1889

grounds. Other slight damages were reported.

The first, last and only crop failure in Pipestone county's history after the grasshopper times came in 1894 and was due to drought.¹⁰ Coming as it did in the midst of the wretched times of the panic period, the failure was a hard blow to many of the residents. In the spring of 1895 many farmers were obliged to take advantage of a law passed by the legislature providing for seed grain loans. There were 125 applicants in Pipestone county who asked for grain as follows: Wheat, 3184 bushels; oats, 8674 bushels; barley, 3918 bushels; flax, 755 bushels; corn, 22 bushels; millet, 53 bushels; potatoes, 40 bushels; clover, 1 bushel; timothy, 1½ bushels.

A county jail building, which was also used for county offices for a number of years, was erected in 1894 and 1895 at a cost of about \$12,000. The first step toward this action was taken by the board of county commissioners July 11, 1894, when a two-mill tax was levied for the purpose and J. Hitchcox and John Pearson were appointed a committee to procure plans and specifications. Ground was broken for the building October 3, 1894, and the structure was completed the following year. All the work was done by Pipestone county residents. The jail was paid for without bond issue and without overdue warrants.

Pipestone county was represented in the Spanish-American war by a company of volunteer soldiers, recruited by Captain C. W. Gilmore. On July 6, 1898, the company, thirty-seven strong, of which twenty-one were Pipestone county boys, departed for St. Paul under com-

mand of Captain Gilmore. At Camp Ramsey the company was recruited to its full quota, and on July 18 it was mustered into the United States service as company M of the Fifteenth Minnesota volunteer infantry. The company and regiment did not see service on the battlefield but was in the service until March 27, 1899, being stationed, respectively, at Camp Ramsey, near St. Paul; at Camp Meade, near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; and at Camp McKenzie, near Augusta, Georgia. The regiment formed a part of the third brigade of the first division of the second army corps. Following is the roster of M company at the date of discharge, with the rank of the soldier at that time and his place of residence as given in the original muster roll:

COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

Clark W. Gilmore (captain), Pipestone.
Olaf H. Rask (first lieutenant), St. Paul.
William A. Steward¹¹ (second lieutenant), Minneapolis.

SERGEANTS.

Mark N. Tisdale (first sergeant), Slayton.
Charles E. Faulkner, Jr. (quartermaster sergeant), Minneapolis.
Frank H. Abbett, Minneapolis.
LeRoy C. Hutchins, Minneapolis.
Ira C. Peterson, Slayton.
Frank Herworth, Minneapolis.

CORPORALS.

Stewart M. Wensole, Minneapolis.
Isaac H. Smith, Moundville, Wisconsin.
Thomas S. Coleman, Pipestone.
William G. Maitland, St. Paul.
Leonard C. Frober, Minneapolis.
Odin Loseth, Underwood.
Enoch H. Linstrom, St. Paul.
George J. Rabischung, St. Cloud.
John M. Howland, Mankato.
William H. Abbott, St. Paul.
Cyrus Logan, Hudson, Wisconsin.
John W. Stewart, Montevideo.
Howard W. Bateman, Belleplaine.

¹⁰"We have now bade good bye to summer and entered upon the fall months. The summer of 1894 has been one for the old settlers in nineteen hundred and something to talk about. It has made the hottest, driest, longest record of any of them. We are not sorry to bid it good bye."—Pipestone County Star, September 7, 1894.

¹¹John T. Jones served as second lieutenant until he resigned November 16, 1898. Mr. Steward was promoted from first sergeant and was commissioned November 25, 1898.

Marvin A. Northrup (musician), La Crosse, Wisconsin.

Matt M. Sanders (artificer), Ely.

Charley R. March (wagoner), Slayton.

PRIVATEES.

Joseph F. Ascher, St. Paul.

Svend F. Bjornelid, Cottonwood.

Peter Blomberg, New York Mills.

George M. Bowles, Minneapolis.

Henry Budler, St. Cloud.

Carl Chestelson, Waseca.

Lars E. Christensen, Cottonwood.

Robert Clark, Jr., St. Paul.

Bernard Collins, St. Paul.

Michael Collins, St. Paul.

Henry Cook, Jasper.

William C. Cross, Merrill, Wisconsin.

Seward S. Crossman, Luverne.

Oscar J. Fresk, Slayton.

Andrew L. Gorder, Minneapolis.

John J. Gallagher, St. Cloud.

William R. Gardner, Marshall.

Charles A. Goodridge, Mankato.

George L. Gravem, Minneapolis.

George G. Gregry, Geneva, New York.

Herman P. Hansen, Hastings.

Zenas A. Hazard, Hastings.

Ole Himle, Montevideo.

Theodore C. Israelson, Montevideo.

Norman Johnson, St. Paul.

Joseph J. Kapfer, St. Cloud.

Joseph Kerkove, Pipestone.

Frank F. King, Boyd.

Thomas Lewis, Wheaton.

Knute Loundberg, Minneapolis.

Isaac K. Maki, New York Mills.

Charles A. Martin, Brandon, Manitoba.

George Miller, St. Paul.

Thomas McCarty, Marshall.

Francis A. Neher, Atkinson, Nebraska.

Maurice J. O'Brine, Cherokee, Iowa.

Oscar Olson, Airlie.

Pearl E. Oxley, Center Point, Iowa.

Charles Peterson, New York Mills.

George Price, Colorado.

William W. Quanetance, Slayton.

Louis G. Rask, Caledonia.

Harry W. Ricketts, Slayton.

Jay I. Ricketts, Slayton.

George F. Riddell, Minneapolis.

John Salm, Slayton.

Joseph Schick, Glenwood.

Frederick Savard, Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

George Shelton, Minneapolis.

Carl J. Smith, West Sweden, Wisconsin.

Harry P. Smith, St. Cloud.

Henry Smith, Fort Snelling.

William M. Smith, Edgerton.

James Stapleton, Trosky.

August Steindorf, St. Cloud.

John A. Stietzel, Kerkhoven.

James L. Stone, Ely.

Joseph H. Theirs, Jr., St. Cloud.

Leonard S. Thomson, Lake Wilson.

Charles W. Tibbs, Minneapolis.

Henry Votel, St. Paul.

Charles F. Williams, Pipestone.

Frank O. Williamson, Mankato.

Emanuel Witttrup, Minneapolis.

Gustav M. Ziemann, Chandler.

Theodor O. Ziemann, Lake Wilson.¹²

The lean years of the hard times period following the panic of 1893 continued until 1898. Then abundant crops, aided by better conditions in the country at large, brought a change in the status. The Pipestone County Star of January 6, 1899, told of the year's progress: "The year 1898 has certainly been a very prosperous one for Pipestone and Pipestone county. The crop of the year in this section was generally very good, and taken in consideration with the general improvement of conditions throughout the country, the cry of hard times has scarcely been heard this year. Money to loan has been abundant and labor of all kinds has been in active demand. Upon every hand throughout the county substantial improvements made through the year can be seen; here a new house, there a new granary or barn, here a new church, there a new school house, and so on. All our lumber dealers report greatly increased sales of all kinds of building material, and this is certainly a strong indication of the improvements which have been made. The bountiful harvest and increased prices have cleared many of our farmers from

¹²Losses were sustained by M company as follows: Hans P. Pederson, of Minneapolis, died September 19, 1898; Christ Neslund, of Minneapolis, died September 28, 1898; Sergeant Frederick C. O. Smith, of Pipestone, died October 18, 1898; Lester D. Lord, of Minneapolis, deserted November 29, 1898; Julius Mark, of New York Mills, was discharged for disability November 11, 1898; William A. Steward, of Minneapolis, was discharged by order of the secretary of war October 1, 1898, that he might accept a commission; Corporal Ole Sathre, Henry H. Little, Gent H. Bacon, Charley Johnson, Martin

Rinde, Albert Hammon and Donald A. Couzens were discharged by order of the secretary of war; Musician William F. Itlis, of Chaska, was transferred to the signal corps January 20, 1899; Olaus A. Opsahl, Andreas K. Steen and Charles A. Strong, Jr., were transferred to the regimental band July 30, 1898; Carl F. Anderson, of Minneapolis, was transferred to the hospital corps, United States army, February 7, 1899; Theodore E. Grahm, of Minneapolis, was transferred to E company February 9, 1899.

debt and have placed others in very comfortable circumstances."

The year 1899 was another prosperous one and one in which there was great demand for land. The agent of Close Bros. & Co. sold over 9000 acres of that firm's land—the last of the company's once enormous holdings. On October 27 the school lands were put on sale by the state auditor, and every piece was sold. The population of the county in 1900 was 9264, an increase of over eighty per cent in ten years.¹³

From the date of organization until early in the year 1902 Pipestone county was without a court house. It will be remembered that at the second meeting of the board of county commissioners, February 20, 1879, the county authorities accepted from D. E. Sweet two blocks of land for court house purposes, which were, however, not destined to be used for such purposes for over twenty years.¹⁴ The land was broken and shade trees were set out, and later the property was leased.

Decidedly primitive were the accommodations afforded the county officers for the transaction of business in the early days. For two years the county auditor's office was a 10x12 feet shack, and the other officers conducted the business at their respective homes. The Pipestone County Star on September 19, 1879, thus bewailed the lack of a court house:

What kind of a way is it for a county like Pipestone to have its books and papers all over the village? The recorder [register of deeds] has the record books at his house; the county attorney, ditto; the treasurer, the same; and the auditor, well, he would have to keep a team to bring his books and papers from his house in the morning and take them home in the evening, and as a consequence they are left in the little shanty called an office, where they

are apt to be destroyed most any night. We should have a place for our officers, where the records can be kept in safety.

In the spring of 1881 the rooms over C. H. Bennett's pioneer frame building were rented, and there a part of the county officials had their offices for three years. On May 26, 1883, a petition was presented to the county board, signed by C. C. Goodnow and others, asking the county law-making body to build a court house out of the public funds. The official record of the resultant action was as follows: "Prayers of the petitioners rejected for the following reasons, that there are no funds in the treasury for that purpose." In June, 1884, the upper story of Commerce block was rented for county purposes, and for many years the auditor, treasurer, register of deeds, superintendent of schools, sheriff, clerk of court, judge of probate and attorney had offices in that building, while the court was held in a little back room, far from suitable but the best to be had.

For many years before a court house was actually built the question was agitated. In 1885 a bill passed the legislature, giving the commissioners of Pipestone county authority to submit the question of issuing \$40,000 bonds for county buildings, but no further action was taken. During the panic stricken days, in the spring of 1894, the matter of a court house became a live issue. In May a petition bearing many signatures, of which nearly 250 were those of farmers, was presented to the commissioners, asking that body to call a special election on the question of issuing \$40,000 bonds for the erection of a court house and jail. On the fifteenth of that month the board took favorable

¹³By precincts the population in 1900 was as follows: Aetna, 321; Altona, 432; Burke, 357; Eden, 600; Edgerton, 450; Elmer, 374; Fountain Prairie, 411; Grange, 316; Gray, 363; Holland, 255; Jasper (in Pipestone county), 447; Osborne, 445; Pipestone, 2536; Rock, 312; Ruthton, 323; Sweet, 415; Trosky, 215; Troy, 481; Woodstock, 211.

¹⁴Owing to a technicality in the original transfer there was a cloud on the title to the block until 1888, when it was removed by decree of Judge Perkins, of the district court.

action and named Tuesday, June 26, election day.

The election was not held. Within a short time another petition, numerously signed, asked that the board withdraw the call for the election, and to decide the matter a special meeting of the county board was called for June 23. The friends of the measure, in the meantime, were not idle. June 19 another petition was circulated, asking that the county board do not withdraw the call, but that the call have this amendment: "All work on said building must be done by residents of Pipestone county." At the meeting the recall was decided on, and the matter was not brought to a vote. Times were extremely hard, and public sentiment was undoubtedly against the bond issue.¹⁵

In February, 1896, the offices of auditor, treasurer, register of deeds and sheriff were established in the newly constructed county building built of red pipestone building stone, being moved from the Commerce block. These offices were maintained in the jail until the court house was erected several years later. The arrangement was not entirely satisfactory.¹⁶

For several years prior to the work of building the court house, funds for the purpose were raised by direct taxation, and the board which convened in January, 1899, decided to take the initial step. They examined the court houses in several of the neighboring counties and had plans drawn, but nothing further was accomplished until early the following year. On January 3, 1900, the contract for the foundation of the building was let to Hadwick & McKnight on a bid of \$8567. The contract for the erection of the superstructure was let November 27, 1900, to

C. H. Peltier on a bid of \$45,175, and work was resumed the next spring.

The county authorities had undertaken the work without the necessary funds to complete and furnish the building, which was constructed of Pipestone red building stone, and for the purpose of raising the money they called a special election for September 12, 1901, to vote on the question of issuing bonds to the amount of \$20,000. The work of the county board¹⁷ was indorsed at the polls, the several precincts voting as follows:

PRECINCT	For Bonds	Against Bonds
Aetna	6	6
Altona	10	6
Burke	10	21
Eden	24	3
Elmer	11	7
Edgerton.....	10	36
Fountain Prairie.....	1	6
Grange	17	2
Gray	5	10
Holland.....	21	3
Jasper	26	4
Osborne	8	28
Pipestone.....	275	25
Rock	7	2
Ruthon	18	24
Sweet	5	8
Trosky	9	3
Troy	8	4
Woodstock	28	8
TOTAL.....	499	206

The court house was completed during the winter of 1901-02 and was occupied for the first time by the county officers in January, 1902.

Prosperous times continued until 1903. That year was one of disaster, brought by a destructive hail storm and excessive rainfall. In May came a heavy rainfall, and a hail, wind and rain storm early in July brought considerable damage in Eden

¹⁵"Petition of citizens filed, asking the board of county commissioners to bond the county for \$40,000 or \$50,000 and loan same to the citizens of the county. On motion said petition was laid on the table."—Commissioners' Journal, June 23, 1894.

¹⁶"For a jail, our jail building is the finest in

this part of the state, but for a court house it is not a success."—Pipestone County Star, June 9, 1899.

¹⁷"The commissioners under whose supervision the court house was erected were Nelson Minet, L. R. Ober, William Doms, J. P. Rolan and J. C. Jonas.

and Sweet townships. But the disaster of the year was the hail storm of July 20, which almost completely laid waste the grain fields in the east two-thirds of the county. The Pipestone Review estimated the loss in the county at \$200,000, and estimates generally placed the loss at from one-third to one-half of the total acreage. The storm passed from the north central portion of the county in a southeasterly direction, the villages of Holland, Woodstock, Trosky and Edgerton being in its path. At Pipestone, which was on the extreme western edge of the storm, there was a heavy fall of hail and damage was done, but not nearly so severe as farther east; at Woodstock hail fell to a depth of six inches, at Edgerton the hailstones had to be shoveled from the sidewalks to make them passable, windows were broken and trees denuded of their leaves. The Pipestone County Star told of the damage:

"Throughout the whole area, the magnificent crop of barley, which was just ready for harvest, was beaten down and threshed out upon the ground in a manner which will render it worthless. Oats and wheat also suffered terribly, but in a few

places will be partially saved. Corn is stripped and the yield will be sadly diminished. In some places the corn looks like an absolute failure. . . . It is generally conceded that the county as a whole will have a half crop. The despair immediately following yesterday's storm was, of course, greater because of the unusually fine prospects which had existed up to this time."

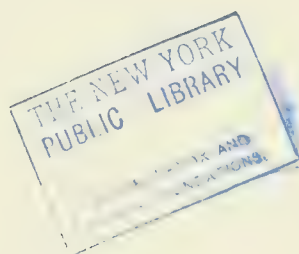
The damage did not extend west of Pipestone, and the extreme northeastern corner of the county escaped serious damage. During the entire season the country was drenched with rains. All the low places were flooded, and in many instances it was impossible to harvest the crop.¹⁸

There was abnormal rainfall during the two or three succeeding years, but the damage therefrom was not general in the county. The county had a population of 9662 when the state census of 1905 was taken.¹⁹ During the last half dozen years before the publication of this volume, times have been prosperous, although there has been no increase in population, the census of 1910 giving a population of 9553.

¹⁸"While the hail did very little damage near Ruthton, the farmers are not in the best of spirits on account of the rainy weather that has prevailed for some time. In many instances it will be impossible to save the crops. In some cases it is impossible to get into the fields with the binders, and the grain in the shock will be greatly damaged by water. There is an immense amount of straw, and grain is, as a rule, well filled, but most people are predicting

that if one-half of the grain is saved we will do well."—Ruthton Gazette, August, 1903.

¹⁹By precincts as follows: Aetna, 340; Altona, 416; Burke, 370; Eden, 613; Edgerton, 380; Elmer, 389; Fountain Prairie, 370; Grange, 314; Gray, 417; Holland, 221; Jasper (in Pipestone county), 520; Osborne, 440; Pipestone, 2885; Rock, 300; Ruthton, 323; Sweet, 411; Trosky, 206; Troy, 467; Woodstock, 280.



CHAPTER XXIII.

POLITICAL—1874-1911.

THE people of Pipestone county take great interest in matters political, and they come by the trait honestly. For it is recorded that away back in the days before the county was organized, when there were only two settlers and one visitor in the county, not one of whom had been in Minnesota long enough to establish residence, the first political convention was held.

This was in June, 1874. At the time Daniel E. Sweet and his family and John Lowry were living in a little house where the city of Pipestone now stands, and when Dr. W. J. Taylor came to the place for the first time and decided to become a resident at some future time, the political history of Pipestone county began. The three men decided to resolve themselves into a convention to choose a delegate to attend the republican congressional convention which was to be held at Owatonna in the latter part of the month. Mr. Lowry was chairman, Mr. Sweet secretary, and Dr. Taylor "the convention." The doctor intended to leave soon for his home in Wisconsin and he was unanimously selected as the delegate. He went to Luverne, where he was joined by Philo Hawes, the delegate from Rock county, and the two proceeded by team to Worthington, then the nearest railroad point,

and thence by rail to Owatonna, where the Pipestone county delegate participated in the deliberations of the convention. A little later in the same year Mr. Sweet attended as a delegate the republican legislative convention which nominated A. M. Crosby for the lower house.

In the summer of 1875 Dr. Taylor returned to the Pipestone country, accompanied by two other prospective settlers, and in the month of June the next convention was held to select a delegate to the republican state convention. The convention was attended by the entire voting strength of the county, as follows: Daniel E. Sweet, John Lowry, Dr. W. J. Taylor, H. D. Sanford and Fred Rogers. Dr. Taylor was chosen as the delegate and attended the convention, which was held at St. Paul, while on his way home to Wisconsin.

When the state convention was organized the matter of seating the Pipestone county delegate occupied the attention of the convention. One of the delegates protested vigorously against the doctor being allowed a seat, stating that Pipestone county was inhabited by nothing but Indians and that a delegate from that unorganized territory most certainly was not entitled to a seat. Dr. Taylor addressed the convention, stating that it was true

that there were only a few voters in Pipestone county, but that they were desirous of bringing about a settlement and that some day, in the not far distant future, these same republicans who now desired to keep him from taking his seat in the convention would be flocking down to Pipestone county looking for delegates favorable to them or to their friends. Upon the conclusion of this brief address, which seemed to strike the delegates as a good one, there were cries of "Admit him!" "Seat him!" etc., and Dr. Taylor participated in the proceedings of the convention.

During the early period of the county's history the settlers were not many, but they were determined to bring about the settlement of the country around the famous Pipestone quarries and lost no opportunity to let the world know that there was such a place as Pipestone county. Therefore they availed themselves of every opportunity to bring attention to their settlement and they considered political conventions desirable places in which to let their lights shine. More in the nature of an advertisement than for political purposes they regularly sent delegates to conventions. In 1876 Daniel E. Sweet was chosen a delegate to, and attended, the republican congressional convention at Owatonna, part of his expenses being paid by C. H. Bennett.

By the summer of 1877 about a dozen voters had become permanent residents of Pipestone county and many others had taken claims with the intention of returning the next year. It was during this year that the first election was held in the county, an election brought about through

a proclamation by Governor John S. Pillsbury.

Provision had been made for holding a special election in Minnesota on June 12 to vote on an amendment to the constitution which provided that the state's swamp lands should be applied on the payment of certain railroad bonds. Pipestone county being then unorganized and not attached to any election district, the settlers, desiring to effect some kind of a local organization and to participate in the election, petitioned Governor Pillsbury to declare Pipestone county an election district for the purpose of voting at the special election. The governor issued the desired proclamation on May 5 and named Daniel E. Sweet, J. G. Bennett and Charles H. Bennett judges of the election.

Of course the proclamation provided only for voting on the amendment, but by straining a point, the judges, on May 22, 1877, issued a call for the election, in which it was also provided that there should be chosen the following named officers: "Three supervisors, one of whom shall be designated as chairman; one town clerk, one treasurer, one assessor, two justices of the peace, two constables, one overseer of highways."

On the same day that the call for the local election was issued the judges prepared a registration list containing the names of forty voters,¹ made up from names of actual voters in the county and those of persons who were known to have claims in the county and who would probably be considered eligible to vote were they present. The election was held at the office of Charles H. Bennett and

¹The names on the list were as follows: Charles Anderson, John C. Ashley, C. H. Bennett, J. M. Bull, Orson Bennett, J. G. Bennett, William Brown, W. D. Brockman, G. A. Brockman, C. L. Chaffee, Daniel Devore, S. K. Ellsworth, William, G. Goddard, A. O. Gray, T. Ganfield, Willis J. Hampton, Willis Harsh, George Hill, William T. Jones, John Johnson, Reuben L. Lyman,

John Lowry, Fred Leonard, Simon Meredith, Michael Meaher, Henry Mitchell, J. K. Maxfield, Eugene Mitchell, John Nelson, Fred Rogers, Adelbert G. Sisson, Daniel E. Sweet, H. D. Sanford, George Stanley, W. J. Taylor, James P. Taylor, Asa Van Alstine, Prescott S. Woodbury, Henry O. Whitehead, J. C. Welliver.

twelve votes were cast² in a little cigar box, still in the possession of Charles H. Bennett. Two votes were against the proposed amendment; the others were for it. The following township officers were elected for the district comprising the whole of Pipestone county and were the county's first officials: Supervisors, Daniel E. Sweet, Duncan Stuart and A. O. Gray; clerk, Daniel E. Sweet; treasurer, W. J. Taylor; assessor, John Stuart; justice of the peace, Charles H. Bennett; constable, A. O. Gray. On the day of the election a caucus of republican voters was held, of which Charles H. Bennett was chairman and Daniel E. Sweet secretary. The first county central committee was chosen, consisting of J. G. Bennett, J. M. Bull and Daniel E. Sweet.

Pipestone county, in 1878, was again represented in the republican congressional convention, which was held at Albert Lea July 10. The county convention to choose the delegate was held in the street in front of the Pipestone postoffice at six o'clock in the evening. Job Whitehead presided and Charles H. Bennett was secretary. J. H. Nichols was selected as the delegate but he was represented in the convention by J. E. Craig, of Rock county, to whom he gave his proxy. Charles H. Bennett, Daniel E. Sweet and S. L. Bailey were chosen a county central committee. On September 17, 1878, another convention was held, at which Daniel E. Sweet was elected a delegate to the senatorial convention.

As has been told in the general history chapters of this volume, so great had been the increase in population during the year 1878 that the people decided it was time to bring about the organization of the county. Although they knew that leg-

islative action would be necessary, they decided to select county officers at the general election in November, 1878, and then ask the legislature to declare the county organized and to legalize the election. Accordingly a convention was called to meet at the office of Sweet & Nichols, in Pipestone City, on October 27. It was called by J. H. Nichols, who was at the time chairman of the republican county central committee, and was participated in by members of both parties. When the convention met an adjournment was taken to Clark & Walter's store. Dr. E. M. Carr was made chairman of the convention and Charles H. Bennett secretary. The following named persons were selected by the convention as its nominees for county and township offices:³ Riley French, auditor; Reuben Clark, treasurer; Samuel Stanton, sheriff; E. M. Carr, register of deeds; George Waite, judge of probate; Charles H. Bennett, county attorney; Daniel E. Sweet, surveyor; G. W. Morrill, coroner; J. H. Nichols, clerk of court; George D. Green, court commissioner; Mrs. F. V. Whitehead, superintendent of schools; W. B. Brown, S. L. Bailey and E. L. Rork, county commissioners; E. D. Day and Daniel E. Sweet, justices of the peace; W. M. Bixby and F. L. Rork, constables.

There were no other candidates in the field and at the election held a few days later the convention nominees were elected. On the question of county organization one hundred votes were polled, of which sixty-six were in favor and thirty-four were opposed to organizing. The bill legalizing this election and declaring Pipestone county organized passed the legislature January 27, 1879, and on February 19 the machinery of county government

²The voters were Daniel E. Sweet, A. O. Gray, Duncan Stuart, W. J. Taylor, Charles H. Bennett, John Lowry, J. G. Bennett, William Jones, Adelbert Sisson, H. D. Sanford, Asa Van Allstine and John Stuart.

³As stated in the official proceedings of the convention.

was set in motion when the board of county commissioners met for the first time at the office of Sweet & Nichols. Most of the other officers qualified at once and Pipestone county was at last a county in fact as well as in name.

Not all the officers elected in November, 1878, qualified, however, and in their places others were appointed by the board of county commissioners. A perusal of the records gives us the following list of men who served Pipestone county in an official capacity during the year 1879:

Riley French,⁴ auditor.

Reuben Clark,⁵ treasurer.

Samuel Stanton,⁶ sheriff.

E. M. Carr, register of deeds.

J. H. Nichols,⁷ judge of probate.

Charles H. Bennett,⁸ county attorney.

G. W. Morrill,⁹ coroner.

J. H. Nichols, clerk of court.

Daniel E. Sweet, surveyor.

E. W. Day,¹⁰ superintendent of schools.

J. W. Lewis,¹¹ court commissioner.

S. L. Bailey,¹² E. L. Rork¹³ and W. B. Brown,¹⁴ county commissioners.¹⁵

E. W. Day and George D. Green, justices of the peace.

Prior to 1884 county elections in Minnesota were held every year, the terms be-

ing for two years but only a part of the county officials being elected each year. For the election of 1879 a "peoples" ticket was nominated at a mass convention called by the chairmen of the republican and democratic county central committees and held at Pipestone October 18. Of this convention Daniel E. Sweet was chairman and Ed. McCall secretary. There was no opposition to the ticket named and the nominees were elected at the general election in November, 1878. John S. Pillsbury, republican, received a large majority over Edmund Rice, democrat, for governor, and the following county officers were elected: Riley French, auditor; Reuben Clark, treasurer; Samuel Stanton,¹⁶ sheriff; Isaac L. Hart, judge of probate; E. W. Day, superintendent of schools; S. M. Pasco, court commissioner; G. W. Morrill, coroner; Duncan Stuart, commissioner first district.

Partisan politics entered into the campaign of 1880 for the first time in Pipestone county's history. The county was overwhelmingly republican at this time, but there were many who believed that the time had not yet come to inject party politics into county affairs. Over one hundred voters signed the call for a "peoples"

⁴"On motion of E. L. Rork, Riley French was appointed county auditor for the county of Pipestone, said French having been duly elected to said office at the last general election, but not having been a resident of the state long enough (by four days) to have become a legal voter at the said last general election."—Commissioners' Journal, February 19, 1879.

⁵Reuben Clark having failed to qualify as required by law, the commissioners, in September, 1879, declared the office of treasurer vacant and reappointed Mr. Clark, and that officer qualified under the appointment at once.

⁶Mr. Stanton having failed to qualify in accordance with the law, the commissioners, in September, 1879, declared the office of sheriff vacant and reappointed Mr. Stanton to the office. He denied the right of the board to remove him and refused to qualify under the appointment. Three days later the commissioners appointed Wellington Sherwood to the office, but that gentleman also refused to qualify and Mr. Stanton continued to act as sheriff.

⁷Appointed April 1, 1879.

⁸Resigned February 28, 1880. A. J. Clark appointed June 15, 1880, to complete the term.

⁹Appointed April 1, 1879.

¹⁰Appointed March 31, 1879.

¹¹Appointed April 26, 1879.

¹²Was chairman of the board from February 19, 1879, to September 27, 1879.

¹³Was chairman from September 27, 1879, to January 1, 1880.

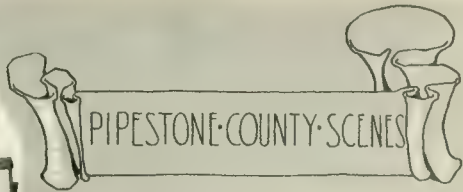
¹⁴Was chairman during the years 1880 to 1884, inclusive.

¹⁵At the election in 1878 the commissioners had been chosen at large. On September 27, 1879, the board divided the county into districts, as follows: No. 1, in which resided Mr. Rork, the townships of Eden, Sweet, Troy and Altona; No. 2, in which resided Mr. Bailey, the townships of Gray, Burke, Elmer and Osborne; No. 3, in which resided Mr. Brown, the townships of Grange, Rock, Aetna and Fountain Prairie. In accordance with the law a new commissioner was elected from the first district in 1879, from the second in 1880, and from the third in 1881. This apportionment was in force until the county became entitled to five commissioner districts in 1884.

¹⁶Resigned February 9, 1880, and Wellington Sherwood appointed.



CAZENOVIA
SCHOOL HOUSE



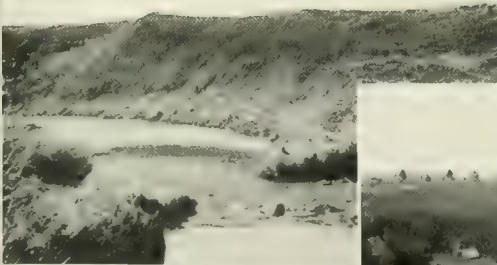
NORWEGIAN CHURCH, IHLEN



DAM AT IHLEN



A POTATO FIELD



SPLIT ROCK CREEK



HOME OF J.F. WILSON NEAR IHLEN

convention to select nominees for county offices and everybody was invited to attend. After this convention had named its nominees the republican organization called a convention and placed a full ticket in the field, and a lively campaign followed. The republicans were uniformly successful, carrying the county for president, congressman and representative and electing every county officer, with one exception. A big vote was polled, 559 ballots having been cast for the nominees for auditor. The vote in detail follows:

President—James A. Garfield (rep), 358; Winfield S. Hancock (dem), 171.

Congressman—M. H. Dunnell (rep), 319; H. R. Wells (dem), 190; W. G. Ward (ind), 44.

Representative—P. J. Kniss (rep), 421; M. A. Strong (peo), 44.

Auditor—John Pearson (rep), 256; Riley French¹⁷ (peo), 303.

Treasurer—E. A. Rice (rep), 301; D. M. Stuart (peo), 253.

Sheriff—George D. Green (rep), 330; J. C. Goodnow (peo), 223.

Register of Deeds—C. W. Fenlason (rep), 308; E. M. Carr (peo), 248.

Attorney—E. C. Dean (rep), 337; A. J. Clark (peo), 209.

Surveyor—D. E. Sweet (rep), 324; D. F. Stacy (peo), 227.

Court Commissioner—Charles H. Bennett (rep-peo), 548.

Coroner—E. M. Carr (rep), 295; G. W. Morrill (peo), 249.

Commissioner Second District—C. C. Fuller (rep), 107; C. E. McCall (peo), 87.

Only a few officers were chosen in 1881 and consequently only a light vote was polled, the highest number for any one office being 358 for governor. There was opposition to only one of the regularly

nominated republican candidates, and he was successful. The vote:

Governor—Lucius F. Hubbard (rep), 264; R. W. Johnson (dem), 94.

Auditor—John Pearson (rep), 312.

Judge of Probate—Robert Scarf (rep), 171; S. H. Smart (ind), 181.

Superintendent of Schools—E. W. Day (rep), 299.

Clerk of Court—J. H. Nichols (rep), 306.

Commissioner Third District—W. B. Brown (rep), 63.

Four hundred eighty-seven votes were polled in 1882. The election was a quiet one except for the campaigns of a few who ran independent against the republican nominees. Following is an abstract of the vote:

Congressman—J. B. Wakefield (rep), 434; J. A. Latimer (dem), 51.

Senator—A. M. Crosby¹⁸ (rep), 146; C. C. Goodnow (ind), 336.

Representative—W. O. Crawford (rep), 487.

Auditor—John Pearson (rep), 487.

Treasurer—E. A. Rice (rep), 487.

Sheriff—George D. Green (rep), 480.

Register of Deeds—C. W. Fenlason (rep), 195; Riley French (ind), 291.

Attorney—E. C. Dean (rep), 259; C. W. Gilmore (ind), 222.

Surveyor—D. E. Sweet (rep), 476.

Coroner—John L. Grun (rep), 484.

Commissioner First District—Duncan Stuart¹⁹ (rep), 171.

Only a few county officers were chosen in the off year 1883 and the election was a quiet one. Four hundred twenty-four votes was the highest number cast. The result:

Governor—Lucius F. Hubbard (rep), 329; Adolph Bierman (dem), 91.

¹⁷Resigned November 27, 1880, immediately after the election, and John Pearson, the defeated candidate, was appointed.

¹⁸Elected.

¹⁹Was chairman in 1885.

Judge of Probate—D. E. Sweet²⁰ (rep), 270; H. W. George (ind), 154.

Court Commissioner—E. M. Carr (rep), 392.

Superintendent of Schools—C. W. Fenlason (rep), 274; H. B. Marshall (ind), 116.

Commissioner Second District—John Pemberton²¹ (rep), 146.

Only the republicans had maintained an organization in Pipestone county prior to 1884, although at nearly every election independent candidates had contested at the polls with many of the republican nominees. This year, there having been a big increase in population and voting strength, the democrats considered themselves strong enough to maintain an organization, and on October 11, at Pipestone, held the first democratic convention. A full ticket was placed in the field. The voting strength of the county had increased to 900 and the campaign was a lively one. The republicans carried the county for president and congressman and elected their entire county ticket with the exception of the nominee for register of deeds. Following is the vote as officially canvassed:

President—James G. Blaine (rep), 598; Grover Cleveland (dem), 256; J. P. St. John (pro), 12; Benjamin F. Butler (gb), 24.

Congressman—J. B. Wakefield (rep), 617; J. J. Thornton (dem), 273; William M. Copp (pro), 10.

Representative—W. B. Brown (rep), 568; John Stuart (dem), 331.

Auditor—John Pearson (rep), 900.

Treasurer—E. A. Rice (rep), 888.

Sheriff—Edgar Shepherd (rep), 365; John Hogan (dem), 193; C. E. McCall (ind), 330.

Register of Deeds—L. D. Peck (rep), 326; Riley French (dem), 408; E. M. Carr (ind), 165.

Attorney—E. C. Dean (rep), 627; N. Lamb (dem), 261.

Coroner—J. L. Grun (rep), 648; E. M. Carr (dem), 244.

Surveyor—D. E. Sweet (rep-dem), 899.

Commissioner Third District—J. R. Morton (rep), 77; Caleb Heath (dem), 30; Hans Hansen (ind), 17.

In accordance with an amendment to the state constitution adopted in 1884, elections were held only in even numbered years after that date, and the next Pipestone county election was held in 1886. There was another increase in the vote, 962 being cast for governor. The republicans were again uniformly successful, carrying the county for governor, congressman and senator and electing all the county ticket except two commissioners. An independent carried the county for representative and was elected; one democrat and one independent were elected commissioners. The vote in 1886 was as follows:

Governor—A. R. McGill (rep), 604; A. A. Ames (dem), 349; J. E. Child (pro), 9.

Congressman—John Lind (rep), 647; A. H. Bullis (dem), 299; George J. Day (pro), 9.

District Judge—A. D. Perkins²² (rep), 956.

Senator—W. B. Brown (rep), 611; Fred Bloom (ind), 327.

Representative—Philo Hawes (rep), 285; J. F. Shoemaker (ind), 669.

Auditor—John Pearson (rep), 801; George Dodd (dem), 161.

Treasurer—E. A. Rice (rep), 733; A. D. Ferris (dem), 217.

²⁰Mr. Sweet served one year only. Governor Hubbard appointed F. L. Jones to the vacancy in January, 1885. Mr. Jones resigned in January, 1886, and Governor Hubbard appointed A. R. Burdell to serve until the judge of probate elected in November, 1886, should qualify.

²¹Was chairman in 1886.

²²Resigned February, 1891, and P. E. Brown appointed by Governor Merriam.

Sheriff—Edgar Shepherd (rep), 828; H. O. Hoy (dem), 132.

Register of Deeds—E. W. Day (rep), 476; E. W. Davies (dem), 471.

Clerk of Court—J. H. Nichols (rep), 615; H. W. George (dem), 340.

Attorney—E. C. Dean (rep), 501; C. W. Gilmore (ind), 446.

Judge of Probate—R. W. Ashton (rep), 553; Duncan Stuart (dem), 398.

Superintendent of Schools—C. W. Fenselson²³ (rep), 565; Ella Crispen (dem), 497.

Surveyor—D. E. Sweet²⁴ (rep), 662; D. B. Whigam (dem), 290.

Court Commissioner—A. Hitchcox (rep), 607; H. B. Ellithorp (dem), 313.

Coroner—H. W. Merrill (rep), 642; E. M. Carr (dem), 314.

Commissioner First District²⁵—M. C. Milliren (rep), 40; Chris Hogan²⁶ (dem), 76.

Commissioner Second District—J. R. Morton²⁷ (rep), 68; L. R. Ober (dem), 60.

Commissioner Third District—G. W. Nash (rep), 65; Joseph Parker (dem), 22; M. C. O'Mahany (ind), 100.

Commissioner Fourth District—John Pemberton²⁸ (rep), 153; Henry Denhart (dem), 96.

Commissioner Fifth District—D. E. Sweet²⁹ (rep), 149; C. W. Ehman (dem), 111.

That Pipestone county was making vast strides forward in the late eighties is indicated by the vote polled at the several elections. In 1888 the vote reached a to-

tal of 1133, that number being cast for the candidates for president. County politics were interesting, there being no less than four tickets in the field—republican, democrat, prohibition and union labor—although in many instances candidates were indorsed by two or more parties. On the county ticket, the republicans lost only two offices, surveyor and one commissioner, while they carried the county for the higher offices, except for representative, an independent again carrying the county and being elected. Following is the vote in 1888:

President—Benjamin Harrison (rep), 668; Grover Cleveland (dem), 305; A. J. Streeter (ul), 126; Clinton B. Fisk (pro), 34.

Governor—William R. Merriam (rep), 647; Eugene M. Wilson (dem), 321; J. H. Paul (ul), 122; Hugh Harrison (pro), 41.

Congressman—John Lind (rep), 680; Morton S. Wilkinson (dem), 308; D. W. Edwards (ul-pro), 127.

Representative—Harrison White (rep), 383; J. F. Shoemaker (ind), 740.

Auditor—John Pearson (rep), 671; Louis Hirschy (dem), 229; C. Cunningham (ul-pro), 228.

Treasurer—G. H. Gurley (rep), 759; C. H. Kingsbury (ul-pro), 261.

Sheriff—Edgar Shepherd (rep), 727; Charles F. Sherwin (dem-ul), 390.

Register of Deeds—E. W. Day (rep), 613; Dayton LaDue (dem-pro), 339; Harry E. Denhart (ul), 142.

Judge of Probate—R. W. Ashton (rep),

and Sweet townships; No. 4, Osborne, Elmer and Eden townships; No. 5, village of Pipestone. All the commissioners were legislated out of office and a full board was chosen in 1886.

²⁶Was chairman in 1888.

²⁷Was chairman in 1887.

²⁸Was chairman in 1889 and 1890.

²⁹Moved from the county and did not qualify. In March, 1887, J. J. Pierce was chosen to fill the vacancy.

²³Resigned March 15, 1887, and C. J. Crandall appointed.

²⁴Did not qualify and on April 6, 1887, Alfred S. Tee appointed.

²⁵The law provided that when a county polled over 800 votes at a general election it was entitled to five county commissioners. At the election in 1884 Pipestone county had polled 900 votes, and on November 28, 1884, the commissioners redistricted the county to conform to the law, as follows: No. 1, Aetna, Fountain Prairie and Altona townships; No. 2, Rock, Grange and Troy townships; No. 3, Burke, Gray

673; E. L. Rork (dem), 241; Edward Ewert (ul-pro), 187.

Attorney—E. C. Dean (rep), 645; E. L. Rork (dem), 147; Adolph Ewert (ul-pro), 300.

Superintendent of Schools—C. J. Crandall (rep), 725; E. M. Carr (dem-pro), 340; Mrs. Francis Whitehead (ul), 147.

Surveyor—Alfred S. Tee³⁰ (dem-ul), 487.

Coroner—H. W. Merrill³¹ (rep), 667; W. S. Pickard (dem), 294; E. M. Carr (ul), 146.

Commissioner First District—James McVeigh (rep), 78; Chris Hogan (dem), 52.

Commissioner Third District—J. I. Bernard (rep), 47; H. J. Farmer³² (dem), 77; William H. Ryan (ul), 5; W. D. Peck (pro), 2.

Commissioner Fifth District—Charles H. Bennett³³ (rep), 172; A. Hitchcox (ul-pro), 117.

There was a political revolution in 1890, caused by the entrance into politics of the farmers' alliance, an organization perfected a few years before but without political aspirations until this time. When it decided to enter the field of politics it was realized that the alliance was to be a factor of no small importance. The result was the almost complete overthrow of the republican party in Pipestone county politics. The alliance candidates for governor, congressman, state senator and representatives all carried the county by pluralities ranging from 22 to 160. On the county ticket it was almost a clean sweep for the new party, alliance men being elected auditor, register of deeds, judge of probate, attorney, court commissioner, coroner and surveyor. By combining, the

republicans and democrats elected treasurer, sheriff and clerk of court, while the republicans alone captured the offices of superintendent of schools and two commissioners. Again a slight increase in the vote was noted, 1146 votes being cast for the several candidates for governor. The result in figures:

Governor—William R. Merriam (rep), 426; Thomas Wilson (dem), 113; S. M. Owen (all), 586; J. P. Pinkham (pro), 21.

Congressman—John Lind (rep), 495; J. H. Baker (all), 595; Ira B. Reynolds (pro), 19.

Senator—H. J. Miller (rep), 476; A. M. Becker (dem), 37; Jay LaDue (all), 617.

Representatives—William Lockwood (rep), 503; George W. Wilson (rep), 458; Larned Coburn (rep), 461; C. P. Shepherd (dem), 130; E. L. Rork (dem), 107; John Pemberton (all), 569; Patrick Gildea (dem-all), 562; C. Gustafson (all), 525.³⁴

Auditor—John Pearson (rep), 471; C. M. Richards (dem), 74; C. Cunningham (all), 593.

Treasurer—G. H. Gurley (rep-dem), 623; J. R. Morton (all), 521.

Sheriff—Edgar Shepherd (rep-dem), 673; Charles Smith (all), 461.

Register of Deeds—E. W. Day (rep), 513; H. W. George (dem), 58; C. C. Goodnow (all), 563.

Judge of Probate—R. W. Ashton (rep), 468; William Erridge (dem), 83; J. C. Marshall (all), 586.

Attorney—E. C. Dean (rep), 441; Hugh Dimock (dem), 125; Joseph Moore (all), 566.

Clerk of Court—W. W. Robey (rep-dem), 582; C. W. Sizer (all), 545.

³⁰Resigned in May, 1889, and Louis Hirschy appointed.

³¹Resigned in March, 1890, and W. J. Taylor appointed.

³²Was chairman in 1891.

³³Was chairman in 1892.

³⁴Messrs Gildea, Lockwood and Coburn were elected.

Superintendent of Schools—C. J. Crandall³⁵ (rep), 763; H. E. Denhart (all), 620.

Court Commissioner—John Murphy, Jr., (rep), 105; A. Hitchcox (dem), 150; L. H. Bugbee (all), 552.

Coroner—W. J. Taylor (rep), 457; E. M. Carr (all-dem), 685.

Surveyor—Louis Hirschy (dem), 149; U. S. Clark (all), 593.

Commissioner Second District—O. T. Gilson³⁶ (rep), 100; J. Hitchcox, Jr., (all), 82.

Commissioner Fourth District—W. F. Tibbetts³⁷ (rep), 206; W. B. Gilmore (all), 146.

An outgrowth of the alliance party was the peoples party, otherwise known as the populist party, which made its first appearance in Pipestone county politics in 1892. Now only a memory, the peoples party was an important factor in the politics of the county during the nineties. Its strength was such that during several campaigns, by forming an alliance with the democratic party, it was able to dominate county politics. In the election of 1892 the republicans carried the county for president, governor and congressman by fair pluralities and for one of the three representatives. On the county ticket the fusion forces (democrat and peoples parties) elected all the officers except treasurer, sheriff, attorney and one commissioner. The total vote had now increased to 1521, a far greater number than had ever before been cast. The Australian ballot system was employed for the first time in this election. The vote of 1892 in detail:

President—Benjamin Harrison (rep), 646; Grover Cleveland (dem), 295; James B. Weaver (pp), 520; Silas Bidwell (pro), 60.

Governor—Knute Nelson (rep), 559; Daniel W. Lawler (dem), 289; Ignatius Donnelly (pp), 359; William J. Dean (pro), 44.

Congressman—J. T. McCleary (rep), 608; W. S. Hammond (dem), 220; L. C. Long (pp), 384; E. H. Bronson (pro), 51.

District Judge—P. E. Brown (non-partisan), 672.

Representatives—William Lockwood (rep), 674; Daniel Shell (rep), 557; Ole O. Holmen (rep), 554; George McGillivray (dem-pp), 669; J. H. Maxwell (dem-pp), 559; Patrick Gildea (dem-pp), 562.³⁸

Auditor—E. R. Larson (rep), 557; C. Cunningham (dem-pp), 724.

Treasurer—G. H. Gurley (rep), 757; D. Thompson (dem-pp), 545.

Sheriff—Edgar Shepherd (rep), 863; Charles Smith (dem-pp), 452.

Register of Deeds—G. W. Nash (rep), 650; C. C. Goodnow (dem-pp), 665.

Judge of Probate—Robert Campbell (rep), 608; J. C. Marshall (dem-pp), 669.

Attorney—C. W. Gilmore (rep), 740; C. A. Tofflemire (dem-pp), 572.

Coroner—E. M. Carr (pp), 748.

Superintendent of Schools—H. E. French (rep), 807; F. M. Payne (dem-pp), 817.

Commissioner First District—Charles Heathfield (rep), 46; Ed. Ginzel (pp), 108.

Commissioner Third District—Fred Bloom (rep), 96; William Harrison (pp), 112.

³⁵Resigned in May, 1892, and F. M. Payne appointed.

³⁶Was chairman from January to September in 1893. He resigned the office of commissioner at that time and Jud Hitchcox was appointed on September 15.

³⁷Removed from the district and in April, 1893, W. H. Buxton was appointed. The latter resigned November 3, 1893, and on November 18 J. C. Jonas was appointed.

³⁸The three republicans were elected.

Commissioner Fifth District—John Pearson³⁹ (rep), 211; Chris Hogan (dem), 100.

Fusion was not accomplished in 1894, all three parties having tickets in the field, and a bitter campaign was waged. Fifteen hundred ninety-six votes were cast. The republicans had small pluralities for their nominees for governor, congressman and representatives, while the democrat-peoples party candidate for senator had a majority. In the county the republicans elected, by small pluralities, all their candidates except auditor and superintendent of schools, which were captured by the peoples party. The result:

Governor—Knute Nelson (rep), 743; George L. Becker (dem), 171; Sidney M. Owen (pp), 652; Hans S. Hilleboe (pro), 30.

Congressman—J. T. Mc Cleary (rep), 749; James H. Baker (dem), 164; L. C. Long (pp), 606; H. S. Kellam (pro), 33.

Senator—H. J. Miller (rep), 721; J. C. Marshall (pp-dem), 812.⁴⁰

Representatives—William Lockwood (rep), 821; Daniel Shell (rep), 670; Ole O. Holmen (rep), 653; John E. King (dem), 169; John J. Ryder (dem), 314; A. Jaycox (pp), 539; J. T. McKnight (pp), 432; C. F. Norwood (pp), 501.

Auditor—S. S. King (rep), 755; C. Cunningham (pp), 794.

Treasurer—G. H. Gurley (rep), 978; John Pemberton (pp), 570.

Sheriff—Edgar Shepherd (rep), 942; Fred Baldwin (dem), 228; C. E. McCall (pp), 412.

Register of Deeds—G. W. Nash (rep), 870; C. C. Goodnow (pp), 689.

Judge of Probate—H. D. Jenckes (rep), 594; E. B. Loomis (dem), 424; I. Witcombe (pp), 547.

Attorney—C. W. Gilmore (rep), 880; C. A. Tofflemire (pp), 547; James R. Mack (ind), 126.

Surveyor—F. J. Bowne (rep), 1145.

Coroner—B. Toresdahl (rep), 964.

Clerk of Court—W. W. Robey⁴¹ (rep), 1036; S. W. Funk (pp), 498.

Court Commissioner—A. Hitchcox (rep), 1032.

Superintendent of Schools—E. C. Smith (rep), 929; F. M. Payne (pp), 998.

Commissioner Second District—Nelson Minet (rep), 102; J. E. Dannaker (dem), 37; W. G. Huntington (pp), 83.

Commissioner Fourth District—E. W. Day⁴² (rep), 228; Henry Ewoldt (dem), 108; Dayton LaDue (pp), 152.

The election of 1896, when free silver was the dominant issue, found Pipestone county in the democratic column on national issues for the first and only time in its history. The fusion party carried the county for president, governor, congressman and two of the three representatives. The county campaign was the most bitterly contested of any in the county's history and pluralities were small. The democrats and peoples party combined on candidates for county offices, their nominees being labeled peoples party on the ballots, which was the case in several succeeding elections. The fusion forces captured the offices of auditor, treasurer, judge of probate, surveyor and one commissioner, while the republicans elected sheriff, register of deeds, attorney, superintendent of schools and two commissioners. The total vote was 1842, which was within a few of the highest vote ever polled in the county. The vote as canvassed:

President—William McKinley (rep), 862; W. J. Bryan (dem-pp), 919; Levering (pro), 17; Palmer (nat-dem), 17.

³⁹Was chairman from September 27, 1893, to the close of the year 1896.

⁴⁰Mr. Miller was elected.

⁴¹Resigned and on April 29, 1898, G. H. Gurley was appointed.

⁴²Was chairman in 1897 and 1898.

Governor—D. M. Clough (rep), 786; John Lind (dem-pp), 972; William J. Dean (pro), 20; William B. Hammond (soc-lab), 6; A. A. Ames (ind), 3.

Congressman—J. T. McCleary (rep), 843; Frank Day (dem-pp), 877; Richard Price (pro), 18.

Representatives—A. S. Dyer (rep), 853; Ole O. Holmen (rep), 745; Daniel Shell (rep), 130; F. M. Payne (dem-pp), 943; Thomas Lowe (dem-pp), 833; M. Sullivan (dem-pp), 843.⁴³

Auditor—B. F. Wheeler (rep), 843; J. C. Marshall (pp), 982.

Treasurer—A. W. Hadwick (rep), 843; H. J. Farmer (pp), 980.

Sheriff—Edgar Shepherd (rep), 1088; A. T. Serrurier (pp), 754.

Register of Deeds—G. W. Nash (rep), 925; George H. Hatch (pp), 915.⁴⁴

Judge of Probate—P. P. Cady (rep), 865; E. M. Carr (pp), 965.

Attorney—D. W. Evans (rep), 917; William F. Ewert (pp), 913.⁴⁵

Surveyor—F. J. Bowne (rep), 862; John W. Pierce (pp), 947.

Superintendent of Schools—E. E. Parke (rep), 1277; E. S. Hatch (pp), 1251.

Coroner—A. H. Brown, 10.

Commissioner First District—Charles Heilig (rep), 111; John Gilronan (pp), 141.

Commissioner Third District—William Doms⁴⁶ (rep), 149; Daniel Duggan (pp), 125.

Commissioner Fifth District—G. H. Gurley⁴⁷ (rep), 215; Louis Hirschy (pp), 187; J. I. Bernard (ind), 53.

The off year 1898 showed a falling off in the vote of Pipestone county, the number being 1348. There was a complete reversal from the result of two years before, the republicans being now successful in carrying the county for all the state, congressional and district offices, and in electing the county ticket with the exception of the judge of probate and the clerk of court, although the vote for many offices was close. The vote was as follows:

Governor—William H. Eustis (rep), 686; John Lind (dem-pp), 559; G. W. Higgins (pro), 25; William B. Hammond (soc-lab), 4; L. C. Long (mid-pop), 46.

Congressman—J. T. McCleary (rep), 687; D. H. Evans (dem-pp), 590; T. P. Grout (pro), 34.

District Judge—P. E. Brown (non-partisan), 77.

Senator—H. J. Miller (rep), 781; Joseph Willers (ind), 462.

Representative⁴⁸—A. S. Dyer (rep), 657; C. Cunningham (ind), 462.

Auditor—J. C. Goodnow⁴⁹ (rep), 685; J. C. Marshall (pp), 658.

Treasurer—J. Hitchcox (rep), 676; H. J. Farmer (pp), 656.

Sheriff—Edgar Shepherd (rep), 951; A. H. Himebaugh (pp), 397.

Register of Deeds—G. W. Nash (rep), 840; H. H. Haney (pp), 497.

Judge of Probate—C. I. Ring (rep), 624; E. M. Carr (pp), 716.

Attorney—D. W. Evans (rep), 989.

Clerk of Court—L. W. Ham (rep), 609; C. H. Smith (pp), 728.

Surveyor—F. J. Bowne (rep), 929.

⁴³Resigned and on May 31, 1898, L. R. Ober appointed.

⁴⁴Mr. Hatch brought an action contesting the election on November 23, but at his instance the case was dismissed in district court a few days later.

⁴⁵A contest for the office of attorney was brought by Mr. Ewert on November 17, asking for a recount in the village of Pipestone. The case was dismissed in district court a few days later at Mr. Ewert's request.

⁴⁶Was chairman in 1899 and 1900.

⁴⁸The apportionment of 1897 formed Rock and Pipestone counties into the sixteenth district, entitled to one senator and one representative. Before that date the district had been composed of Rock, Pipestone, Nobles and Murray counties.

⁴⁹Died May 8, 1899. G. H. Gurley appointed to the vacancy May 10.

Superintendent of Schools—E. E. Parke (rep), 1184; E. L. Cochran (pp), 746.

Coroner—J. O. Dyrnes⁵⁰ (rep), 888.

Court Commissioner — A. Hitchcox (rep), 655; F. M. Payne (pp), 651.

Commissioner Second District—Nelson Minet⁵¹ (rep), 111; J. R. Morton (pp), 101.

Commissioner Fourth District—J. C. Jonas⁵² (rep), 263; D. J. Denhart (pp), 148.

Commissioner Fifth District—L. R. Ober (rep), 292.

The high mark in total vote cast, in the entire history of the county, was reached in 1900, when 1907 ballots were cast for nominees for sheriff. William McKinley carried the county over W. J. Bryan for president by a big plurality and all republican state, congressional and legislative nominees received majorities. The fusionists elected only one county officer, their nominee for auditor. The vote follows:

President—William McKinley (rep), 1112; W. J. Bryan (dem-pp), 692; J. G. Wooley (pro), 50; Eugene Debs (soc-dem), 4.

Governor—Samuel R. Van Sant (rep), 933; John Lind (dem-pp), 840; B. P. Haugen (pro), 28; S. M. Fairchild (pop), 2; T. H. Lucas (soc-dem), 8.

Congressman—J. T. McCleary (rep), 1041; M. E. Mathews (dem-pp), 783; S. D. Works (pro), 42.

Representative—J. H. Nichols (rep), 1094; S. B. Nelson (dem), 760.

⁵⁰Did not qualify and W. J. Taylor appointed January 31, 1899.

⁵¹Was chairman in 1902.

⁵²Was chairman from January to November 16 in 1901. On that date resigned as chairman and commissioner. His place on the board was filled December 13, 1901, by the selection of D. J. Denhart. William Doms was chosen chairman December 17, 1901, and served the rest of that year.

Auditor—Fred Bloom (rep), 923; J. C. Marshall (pp), 943.

Treasurer—J. Hitchcox (rep), 1111; O. T. Gilson (pp), 752.

Sheriff—Edgar Shepherd (rep), 1247; Con. J. Delaney (pp), 660.

Register of Deeds—G. W. Nash (rep), 1160; W. C. Akers (pp), 706.

Judge of Probate—C. I. Ring (rep), 965; E. M. Carr (pp), 878.

Superintendent of Schools—E. E. Parke⁵³ (rep), 1547; Mrs. Kate M. Wilson (pp), 1170.

Attorney—D. W. Evans (rep), 1108; E. E. Roddis (pp), 744.

Surveyor—F. J. Bowne⁵⁴ (rep), 1407.

Coroner—H. D. Jenckes, 119; A. H. Brown, 25; Scattering, 27.

Commissioner First District—John P. Rolen⁵⁵ (rep), 159; John Gilronan (pp), 110.

Commissioner Third District—William Doms (rep), 149; H. J. Farmer (pp), 132.

Commissioner Fifth District—L. R. Ober⁵⁶ (rep), 319; Frazer Mackey (pp), 171.

The primary election law went into effect in 1902, and since that time party nominations have been made by direct vote of the people instead of the old style county conventions. This has resulted in revolutionizing county politics. Pipestone county being nominally republican, the principal campaign is now made for the republican nomination, and generally there are only a few contests for county office at the general election.

⁵³Resigned August 22, 1902, and Mrs. Addie Parke, his wife, appointed August 30.

⁵⁴Resigned April 27, 1901. George Arthur was appointed to the vacancy July 8, but did not qualify. James S. Garrett was appointed August 9.

⁵⁵Resigned June 6, 1902, and Thomas Thompson appointed June 10.

⁵⁶Resigned February 11, 1902, and the following day E. W. Davies appointed.

The first primary election was held September 16, 1902. All of the peoples party nominees and many of the republicans were chosen without opposition. Following was the vote for republican candidates for offices where more than one sought the nomination:

Representative—Niels Jacobson, 337; Harrison White, 299.

Auditor—S. B. Duea, 366; J. E. Craig, 274.

Clerk of Court—M. Churchill, 107; S. B. Rocky, 229; C. H. Smith, 356.

Attorney—P. A. Ewert, 274; P. P. Cady, 439.

Superintendent of Schools—F. S. Hanson, 603; Mrs. J. P. Jefferis, 214.

At the general election 1593 votes were cast. The county was found to be strongly republican for state, congressional and legislative offices. On the county ticket the peoples party elected auditor and three of the four county commissioners; the other offices went to the republicans. The vote of the 1902 general election in detail:

Governor—Samuel R. Van Sant (rep), 986; Leonard A. Rosing (dem), 400; Thomas J. Meighen (pp), 114; Charles Scanlon (pro), 43; Thomas Van Lear (soc-lab), 5; J. E. Nash, 10.

Congressman—J. T. McCleary (rep), 1021; Charles N. Andrews (dem), 494.

Senator—J. H. Nichols (rep), 1115; Jay LaDue (ind), 383.

Representative—Niels Jacobson (rep), 1059; F. C. Mahoney (ind), 428.

Auditor—S. B. Duea (rep), 738; J. C. Marshall (pp), 855.

Treasurer—J. Hitchcox (rep), 875; R. H. O'Connell (pp), 698.

Sheriff—Edgar Shepherd (rep), 1401.

Register of Deeds—G. W. Nash (rep), 957; George G. Stone (pp), 636.

Judge of Probate—C. I. Ring (rep), 782; E. M. Carr (pp), 776.

Attorney—P. P. Cady (rep), 1275.

Clerk of Court—C. H. Smith (rep), 993; F. M. Payne (ind), 549.

Superintendent of Schools—F. S. Hanson (rep), 1323.

Surveyor—J. W. Pierce, 40.

Coroner—W. A. Brown, 134; C. De Jong, 66; W. J. Taylor, 25.

Court Commissioner—A. Hitchcox, 9.

Commissioner First District—Thomas Thompson (rep), 104; Alvah Smith (pp), 111.

Commissioner Second District—Nelson Minet (rep), 82; James O'Neil⁵⁷ (pp), 103.

Commissioner Fourth District—J. Natzke (rep), 195; C. Bauman⁵⁸ (pp), 220.

Commissioner Fifth District—E. W. Davies⁵⁹ (rep), 323.

At the 1904 primary election there were only three contests for the republican nominations and none in the other parties. The vote for the republican contestants was as follows:

Congressman—J. T. McCleary, 417; H. J. Miller, 272.

Auditor—Fred Bloom, 316; Corry Ridgway, 298.

Judge of Probate—A. W. Hadwick, 238; C. I. Ring, 287; William Doms, 131.

Sixteen hundred twenty votes were cast at the general election in 1904. The republicans made almost a clean sweep. Theodore Roosevelt secured a record breaking majority for president and the republican candidates for state and district offices received majorities. The peoples party elected the auditor, and an independent was chosen county commissioner; otherwise the republicans captured all the offices. The vote follows:

President—Theodore Roosevelt (rep),

⁵⁷Was chairman in 1905.

⁵⁸Was chairman in 1906.

⁵⁹Was chairman in 1903 and 1904.

1185; Alton B. Parker (dem), 269; Thomas Watson (pp), 27; Swallow (pro), 39; Eugene Debs (po), 35; Corregan (soc-lab), 1.

Governor—R. C. Dunn (rep), 788; J. A. Johnson (dem), 681; C. W. Dorsett (pro), 44; J. E. Nash (po), 19; A. W. M. Anderson (soc-lab), 10.

Congressman—J. T. McCleary (rep), 1407; G. P. Jones (dem), 566.

District Judge—P. E. Brown (non-partisan), 1288.

Representative—Niels Jacobson (rep), 1124; J. Michelson (pro), 249.

Auditor—Fred Bloom (rep), 686; J. C. Marshall (pp), 926.

Treasurer—J. Hitchcox (rep), 1118; W. J. Dinger (ind), 463.

Sheriff—Edgar Shepherd⁶⁰ (rep), 1418.

Register of Deeds—G. W. Nash (rep), 1003; M. J. Sheeran (dem), 617.

Judge of Probate—C. I. Ring (rep), 951; E. M. Carr (dem), 648.

Attorney—P. P. Cady (rep), 1302.

Superintendent of Schools—F. S. Hanson (rep), 1393.

Surveyor—F. L. Williams,⁶¹ 244; scattering, 48.

Coroner—H. D. Jenckes, 121; William Doms, 132; scattering, 27.

Commissioner First District—W. F. Watts (rep), 100; J. E. Bogenrief⁶² (ind), 102.

Commissioner Third District—J. P. Ryan (rep), 164; A. Webber (ind), 116.

Commissioner Fifth District—E. W. Davies⁶³ (rep), 324.

The republican primary election in 1906 resulted in many contests, the vote being as follows:

Congressman—J. T. McCleary, 552; Gilbert Guttersen, 495.

Senator—E. H. Canfield, 324; C. W. Gilmore, 719.

Representative—K. G. Oldre, 483; Harrison White, 459.

Auditor—Corry Ridgway, 555; L. A. Nims, 428.

Treasurer—J. Hitchcox, 537; R. G. Larson, 509.

Register of Deeds—G. W. Nash, 648; J. T. Johnson, 343.

Sheriff—C. S. Walkup, 311; W. H. Lake, 662; James Hendren, 120.

Clerk of Court—C. H. Smith, 493; S. B. Rockey, 563.

Commissioner Fourth District—Chris Bauman, 154; James Telford, 183.

The democrats carried Pipestone county at the general election of 1906 for governor and congressman, while the republicans elected every nominee for county office. Fourteen hundred fifty-nine votes were cast. The result:

Governor—A. L. Cole (rep), 557; J. A. Johnson (dem), 834; Charles W. Dorsett (pro), 53; O. E. Lofthus (po), 5.

Congressman—J. T. McCleary (rep), 676; W. S. Hammond (dem), 691; David A. Tucker (pro), 69.

Senator—E. H. Canfield (rep), 1068.

Representative—Harrison White (rep), 831; John Michelson (pro), 403.

Auditor—Corry Ridgway (rep), 764; J. C. Marshall (pp), 649.

Treasurer—J. Hitchcox (rep), 769; Hugh Dimock (dem), 666.

Sheriff—W. H. Lake (rep), 852; George W. Pratt (dem), 607.

Register of Deeds—G. W. Nash (rep), 807; J. M. O'Neil (dem), 632.

Judge of Probate—C. I. Ring (rep), 745; E. M. Carr (dem), 688.

Clerk of Court—S. B. Rockey (rep), 1244.

⁶⁰Resigned September 24, 1906, and Frank E. Wood appointed.

⁶¹J. W. Pierce was appointed surveyor in March, 1906.

⁶²Resigned in February, 1907, and Alvah Smith appointed.

⁶³Was chairman 1907 to 1911, inclusive.

Attorney—P. P. Cady (rep), 1125.
 Superintendent of Schools—F. S. Hanson⁶⁴ (rep), 1220.

Coroner—William Doms, 152; W. J. Taylor, 61; G. E. Sellers, 57.

Surveyor—J. W. Pierce, 59.

Court Commissioner—A. Hitchcox,⁶⁵ 5.

Commissioner Second District—E. S. Butman (rep), 131.

Commissioner Fourth District—James Telford (rep), 311.

The contest for the republican nomination at the 1908 primary resulted as follows:

Congressman—P. A. Ewert, 503; Gilbert Gutteresen, 166; J. T. McCleary, 372.

Representative—S. B. Duea, 639; A. C. Finke, 205; Harrison White, 185.

Auditor—J. E. Craig, 291; Corry Ridgway, 702.

Treasurer—J. Hitchcox, 673; George F. Lange, 359.

Superintendent of Schools—W. S. Browne, 361; Jessie E. Walkup, 1123.

Commissioner Fifth District—E. W. Davies, 215; C. H. Smith, 124.

The general election of 1908 went to the republicans almost by default, there being no contests for county offices. An independent was elected commissioner from the first district. Sixteen hundred thirty-four was the highest numbers of votes cast for any one office, though 1699 ballots were deposited in the ballot boxes, out of a registration of 1941. Following is the result:

President—William H. Taft (rep), 1057; W. J. Bryan (dem), 491; E. Chaffin (pro), 49; Eugene Debs (po), 27.

Governor—J. F. Jacobson (rep), 825; J. A. Johnson (dem), 731; Haggard (pro), 26; Moore (po), 12.

⁶⁴Resigned and Jessie E. Walkup appointed, taking office October 1, 1907.

⁶⁵Resigned in January, 1909, and Edward P. Cady appointed by Judge P. E. Brown.

Congressman—J. T. McCleary (rep), 838; W. S. Hammond (dem), 796.

Representative—S. B. Duea (rep), 1285.

Auditor—Corry Ridgway (rep), 1295.

Treasurer—J. Hitchcox (rep), 1332.

Sheriff—W. H. Lake (rep), 1364.

Register of Deeds—G. W. Nash (rep), 1330.

Attorney—A. L. Janes (rep), 1311.

Judge of Probate—C. I. Ring (rep), 1192.

Superintendent of Schools—Jessie E. Walkup (rep), 1362.

Surveyor—J. W. Pierce,⁶⁶ 131; J. E. Craig, 17.

Coroner—William Doms, 137; E. E. Argetsinger, 57; E. M. Carr, 8.

Commissioner First District—E. K. Gryte (rep), 93; A. E. Rydell (ind), 150.

Commissioner Third District—J. H. Crawford (rep), 152.

Commissioner Fifth District—E. W. Davies (rep), 342.

The primary of 1910 disclosed the fact that many sought the republican nomination for county offices. The official vote follows:

Congressman—F. F. Ellsworth, 685; A. L. Ward, 639.

District Judge—Wilson Borst, 86; C. W. Gilmore; 952; L. S. Nelson,⁶⁷ 215; D. A. Stuart, 154; J. A. Town, 50.

Senator—E. H. Canfield, 496; S. B. Duea, 930.

Representative—William Lockwood, 642; Harrison White, 770.

Auditor—J. E. Craig, 133; S. W. Funk, 412; Q. E. Kiester, 434; Corry Ridgway, 491.

Treasurer—J. Hitchcox, 561; L. G. Jones, 937.

⁶⁶Resigned in May, 1909, and J. E. Craig appointed.

⁶⁷Was nominated.

Sheriff—W. H. Lake, 740; R. S. Shepherd, 799.

Clerk of Court—James W. Chattell, 248; S. B. Rockey, 708; C. H. Smith, 520.

Attorney—P. P. Cady, 423; A. L. Janes, 1056.

Commissioner Fourth District—C. H. Maynard, 148; James Telford, 247.

At the last general election before the publication of this volume, that of November 8, 1910, 1447 votes were cast for the nominees for state senator. This vote was divided among the several precincts as follows: Aetna, 60; Altona, 56; Burke, 53; Eden, 91; Edgerton, 86; Elmer, 47; Fountain Prairie, 28; Grange, 38; Gray, 47; Holland, 61; Jasper, 102; Osborne, 74; Pipestone, first ward, 223; second ward, 176; Rock, 37; Ruthton, 74; Sweet, 54; Trosky, 35; Troy, 57; Woodstock, 48.

The republicans carried the county for all state offices and congressman and elected the entire county ticket without opposition. One democratic commissioner was chosen. The vote as officially canvassed:

Governor—A. O. Eberhart (rep), 885; James Gray (dem), 418; J. F. Heiberg (pro), 66; George E. Barrett (po), 22; C. W. Brandborg (soc-lab), 30.

⁶⁸Carried the judicial district by 37 plurality.

⁶⁹Did not qualify owing to acceptance of position as assistant attorney general of Minnesota. Morris Evans appointed January 3, 1911.

Congressman—F. F. Ellsworth (rep), 765; W. S. Hammond (dem), 597; D. A. Thayer (soc), 50.

District Judge—L. S. Nelson⁶⁸ (rep), 622; J. G. Redding (dem), 692; John A. Cashel (ind), 95.

Senator—S. B. Duea (rep), 907; S. B. Nelson (dem), 540.

Representative—Harrison White (rep), 800; W. O. Crawford (pro), 541.

Auditor—Corry Ridgway (rep), 1160.

Treasurer—L. G. Jones (rep), 1259.

Sheriff—R. S. Shepherd (rep), 1176.

Register of Deeds—G. W. Nash (rep), 1220.

Judge of Probate—C. I. Ring (rep), 1202.

Attorney—A. L. Janes⁶⁹ (rep), 1214.

Clerk of Court—S. B. Rockey (rep), 1227.

Superintendent of Schools—Jessie E. Walkup (rep), 1205.

Coroner—G. E. Sellers (rep), 1169.

Commissioner Second District—E. S. Butman (rep), 158.

Commissioner Fourth District—James Telford (rep), 202; C. F. Rieck (dem), 222.

CHAPTER XXIV.

PIPESTONE—1874-1911.

ON THE mountains of the prairie, on the great red Pipestone quarry, where, the poet tells us, in ages past the Great Spirit stood and called the tribes of men together, is the city of Pipestone, capital of Pipestone county. History records that wherever the North American Indians were in the habit of gathering in large numbers, for places of residence, council, or worship, those spots have invariably been selected by white men on which to locate their centers of population. There is scarce an instance to the contrary, and, indeed, it would have been remarkable had a city not been founded at the famous quarries. For where is now the modern city of Pipestone, the aborigines were wont to gather to renew their supply of the sacred pipestone long before Columbus set out on his perilous voyage that resulted in the discovery of America. The ancient Pipestone was a place of great renown, and the modern Pipestone is not without fame.

The capital of Pipestone county is a city of a little less than 2500 people. It is located south of, and adjoining, the quarries of history, in the west central part of the county, the business section of the city being on section 12, Sweet township (township 106, north of range

46 west). The elevation of Pipestone above sea level is 1740 feet.¹ As a railroad center it takes high rank, four separate systems having lines to the city. In the state of Minnesota are only two cities—Minneapolis and St. Paul—that have greater railroad facilities, and only two others—Mankato and Albert Lea—that have as many railroads as Pipestone. The railroad companies that operate lines to Pipestone are the Great Northern, the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific, and the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha. The city, therefore, enjoys excellent shipping facilities, a circumstance to which is due much of Pipestone's prosperity and growth.

The early history of Pipestone is so linked with that of the county, which has been recorded in an earlier chapter, that it is here necessary to give only a brief resume of events.

For a period of thirty-six years, from 1837 to 1873, the site of the present city of Pipestone was visited infrequently by white men—explorers, geologists, soldiers, trappers, and tourists—attracted by the famous quarries, but during that time no attempt to establish a home on the site was made. When C. H. Bennett, then in

¹That is the elevation of the Rock Island depot. The elevation of the Milwaukee depot is 1693 feet; of the Omaha, 1715 feet.

the drug business in LeMars, Iowa, accompanied by a small party, visited the quarries in September, 1873, he determined to found a city there and selected as a site the land on which Pipestone now stands. In the enterprise he interested D. E. Sweet, D. C. Whitehead and John Lowry, of Rock Rapids, Iowa, and in 1874 the first attempt to found a settlement at the quarries was made. The enterprise was inaugurated during the hard times period following the panic of 1873, at a time when local conditions were also most inauspicious because of the grasshopper scourge. Adding to the discouragements of the undertaking, the residents of the western country had an inherent fear of the Indian, and sentiment was against the founding of a settlement in the vicinity of the Pipestone quarries, where it was known the Sioux were wont to congregate in large numbers. But the promoters were men of determination, and they carried through their project, not, however, without many discouragements and setbacks.

In the month of May, 1874, C. H. Bennett, O. W. Bennett, D. C. Whitehead, Job Whitehead, D. E. Sweet and John Lowry visited the site and took claims, and C. H. Bennett erected the first building in the city-to-be, an 8x12 feet shanty, six feet high, at the point that is now designated the corner of Hiawatha and

Centennial streets. On June 4 of the same year D. E. Sweet, his wife and little son, and John Lowry took up their residence at the point where it was determined to found the town, a point forty-five miles from the nearest railroad and also a long distance from the nearest white settlement. Mr. Sweet tore down the Bennett cabin, which had been donated him by Mr. Bennett, and erected a more substantial home, and in December Mr. Lowry erected the town's second building—a small cabin. In August, 1874, when there was only one building in Pipestone (and in Pipestone county), through the instrumentality of Mr. Sweet, the Pipestone postoffice was established and Mr. Sweet received the commission as postmaster.²

For two years after the first settler located on the proposed townsite there was little improvement. During the summer seasons of 1875 and 1876 a few newcomers arrived, selected claims in the vicinity, and made a few improvements, which promised better things for the future, but all invariably left for their old homes for the winters, leaving Mr. Sweet and his family the only residents of "the town" and of Pipestone county. Quite a number of temporary residents were in the vicinity in the summer of 1876, selecting claims and breaking land, and to supply their wants John Lowry, in June, established a store in the building he had

²During the first year there was no regular mail service, but the mail was occasionally brought down from Lake Benton. Regular service by way of Lake Benton was established in July, 1875, and a Mr. Snyder secured the contract for carrying the mail, making weekly trips. In the fall of 1875 Mrs. Sweet received the commission for the Pipestone postoffice. C. H. Bennett was commissioned in 1876, but did not qualify, although he served as deputy several months during the fall and winter of 1876. W. H. Wheeler was appointed in February, 1877, but served only a few months. D. E. Sweet again became postmaster in November, 1877, and served until November 15, 1886.

In the early days the "postoffice" was a corner in a room of Mr. Sweet's residence. In the fall of 1878 a 12x15 feet building was erected for the postoffice, and a year later the federal business was transacted in a more imposing

structure. The office was made a money order postoffice in July, 1880.

Succeeding Mr. Sweet as postmaster was John Stuart, who was appointed by President Cleveland and who served from November 15, 1886, until January 23, 1890. Major E. A. Rice served from the last mentioned date, under appointment by President Harrison, until May 1, 1894. Hiram W. George was the postmaster under the second Cleveland administration four years, relinquishing the office to W. W. Robey May 2, 1897. Mr. Robey served until his death early in 1906. His widow, Luella T. Robey, after serving several weeks as acting postmaster, received the commission and served as Pipestone's postmaster until April 4, 1910. Since that date J. H. Nichols has been postmaster of Pipestone.

Six rural routes are supplied from the Pipestone office. The first four began operations November 1, 1902; No. 5, on April 1, 1904; No. 6, in recent years.

erected in December, 1874.³ The first mercantile establishment in the city and county had a \$200 stock of general merchandise. It was discontinued in the fall, all the customers having been driven from the county by the ravages of the grasshoppers. In June, 1876, also, C. H. Bennett erected a little one-story office building, 12x16 feet, at the corner of Centennial and Frances streets,⁴ making the third building in Pipestone.

D. E. Sweet and C. H. Bennett platted the townsite of Pipestone City⁵ in 1876, Mr. Sweet doing the surveying. C. H. Bennett, who was the owner of that part of the townsite on the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter and the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 12, made the dedication October 17, 1876, the acknowledgement being made before J. S. Struble, justice of the peace in Plymouth county, Iowa. Mary O. Sweet and D. E. Sweet, the owners of that part on the southwest quarter of section 12, made the dedication June 18, 1877. The original plat consisted of twenty-two blocks. The streets east and west were named Pillsbury, Longfellow, Centennial, Olive and Catlin. Those north and south were Emma, Helen, Anna, Fran-

ces, Hiawatha, Adelaide, Florence and Dunnell.⁶

The platting of the townsite did not result in the immediate building of the town. In fact, such were the exigencies of the times that when fall arrived the only people to be found on the townsite and in the whole county were the townsite proprietors. Mr. Bennett remained in Pipestone until just before Christmas; Mr. Sweet returned to the place in January and spent the rest of the winter there. Nor was there much improvement in the town in 1877, although quite a number of new settlers arrived and located in the vicinity. John Stuart erected a house west of the Sweet home in the spring of the year, and in November the framework for a hotel building was raised by William Jones, the pioneer landlord.⁷

The actual founding of Pipestone may be said to have taken place in the spring of 1878, for prior to that time there were few criterions of a village. With the rush for Pipestone county lands early in the spring of that year came the establishment of the first business houses. Before the twelve-month was ended a dozen or more buildings had been erected on the townsite, the town had a population

³"John Lowry, formerly of Rock Rapids, has just opened a general store at Pipestone City, which will be a great convenience to the people now residing there and those soon to become occupants of the beautiful lands in that section. His stock was purchased of the enterprising firm of Bartlett & Jacobsen, of Luverne."—Rock County Herald, June 24, 1876.

⁴"This is now a part of Mr. Bennett's residence.

⁵"The postoffice was named Pipestone, the townsite Pipestone City. For a number of years the village was commonly called Pipestone City, but later the "city" was dropped from the title.

⁶"Additions to Pipestone City have been platted as follows:

Nichols', by Julius H. Nichols, December 14, 1878.

Sweet's, by Daniel E. Sweet, April 10, 1882.

Seaman's, by F. A. Seaman, May 17, 1883.

Peters', by Floyd D. Peters, July 24, 1883.

Corbett's, by Herbert E. Corbett, Julius H. Nichols and D. M. Stuart, August 1, 1883.

Sanford's, by H. D. Sanford and L. H. Moore, October 31, 1883.

Walbridge & Moore's, by L. H. Moore and E. K. Walbridge, September 5, 1883.

Lawrence's, by A. H. Lawrence, November 26, 1883.

Hubbard Brothers', by J. R. Hubbard and E. S. Hubbard, May 30, 1884.

Cutting's, by L. S. Cutting, June 10, 1884.

Park, by D. E. Sweet, June 26, 1884.

Taylor's, by O. J. Taylor and W. J. Taylor, October 23, 1884.

Duluth, by L. H. Moore and E. W. Davies, December 27, 1888.

Ash Grove Park, by H. D. Sanford, L. H. Moore and W. N. Davidson, July 20, 1892.

Bennett & Davies', by E. W. Davies and C. H. Bennett, July 9, 1897.

⁷"... Where twenty-five years ago stood the pioneer hotel of Pipestone, the Jones House, and how this name will call to the memory of the old settlers the sight of Landlord 'Bill' Jones, his wife and their eleven daughters—almost enough to fill the old hotel without the transients or the score or more of 'regulars' who never missed roll call at meal time. The old hotel was a crude affair, hastily erected of lumber hauled across the country from Luverne, complete (?) with all the modern inconveniences—water in each room, when it rained—light in each room, when the moon shone through the crevices in the roof—heat in each room, when it was warm weather."—Pipestone County Star, 1904.

of possibly fifty people, and several business houses had been opened. D. E. Sweet and J. H. Nichols engaged in the real estate business and erected a small building, in which was located the post-office. C. H. Bennett began the erection of a store building and opened his drug store in the same the following spring, he and his wife having established their permanent residence there in the summer of 1878. John and Mac Stuart opened a general merchandise store, which they conducted under the firm name of Stuart Brothers.⁸ William Jones opened his hotel to the public. W. E. Wheeler and James Gillard, under the firm name of Gillard & Wheeler, established a hardware store in June.⁹ Reuben Clark erected a store building in the spring and engaged in the general merchandise business. John Henderson opened a blacksmith shop. Dr. E. M. Carr erected a house in the spring and engaged in the practice of medicine. John Lowry returned and made his home in the new town. Later in the year Rev. Pease, of Blue Earth City, arrived and erected a residence; S. L. Bailey became a resident; Captain John Pearson came from Mankato to become a permanent citizen; Riley French purchased a lot and built a residence thereon.¹⁰ The dreams of the town's founders had come true; a city existed at the famous Pipestone quarries.

⁸"John Stewart [Stuart] contemplates opening a store [in Pipestone] this spring, keeping on his shelves a general assortment of goods suited to the wants of what is destined to become a live, progressive community."—Rock County Herald, March 15, 1878.

⁹"Mr. James H. Gillard has removed a portion of his hardware stock to Pipestone City and expects to remove the balance, together with his teams, tools, etc., within a fortnight."—Rock County Herald, May 3, 1878.

¹⁰"Mr. Riley French, son-in-law of Mr. S. L. Bailey, of this place, arrived here with his family from Colo. Story county, Iowa. Mr. French is a business man, comes well recommended, and we give him a hearty welcome among us." Correspondence in Rock County Herald, September 6, 1878.

¹¹"Railroad was in everybody's mouth [in the spring of 1879]. The Southern Minnesota and the Sioux City branch were both shooting

Activities were renewed early in the spring of 1879. The town received added dignity by being declared the county seat of the newly organized county, and the activities were augmented by rumors of the coming of two lines of railway.¹¹ Among the first institutions put under way was the Eureka hotel, by J. W. Lewis.¹² In April Ralph J. Wiger opened a hardware store and J. A. Phelps a restaurant. Dr. W. J. Taylor, who had been one of the first to take a claim in the vicinity, but who had later spent most of his time at Luverne, began the practice of his profession in the new town in March. Dr. G. W. Morrill also practiced in Pipestone. A. F. Jackson started a second blacksmith shop. L. H. Hackett opened a flour and feed store. In early summer J. A. Phelps & Co. erected a large building and engaged in the furniture business, also carrying a stock of harness. In April S. M. Pasco established the first lumber yard.¹³ On June 19 I. L. Hart established the Pipestone County Star, the first newspaper, and Pipestone at last had an organ to proclaim the greatness of the new town. At the time of the founding of the Star there were in the village the following business and professional men:

Stuart Bros., general merchandise.

Reuben Clark, general merchandise.

Ralph J. Wiger, hardware.

this way, but no one knew whether Pipestone City would be the lucky point or not. A survey of the Southern Minnesota had been made several miles south, and it was decided that if the road was through there it would be necessary to move the town to it, and some buildings were built with that end in view."—Pipestone County Star, August 12, 1880.

¹²"Mr. J. W. Lewis goes to Pipestone today to perfect arrangements for the building of a new hotel there. The new building will be 20x30 feet in size, two stories high. We congratulate the people of Pipestone City upon so valuable an accession to their numbers and business."—Rock County Herald, February 21, 1879.

¹³"Mr. S. M. Pasco, of Luverne, is preparing to fill a much needed branch of business in this county—a first class lumber yard—and has a portion of the stock already on the ground."—Correspondence in Rock County Herald, May 2, 1879.



PIPESTONE IN EARLY DAYS

The Central Picture is from a Photograph Taken in 1888. The Others are Early Day Street Scenes.

C. H. Bennett, drugs.
 J. A. Phelps & Co., furniture and harness.
 S. M. Pasco, lumber.
 W. L. Jones, Jones hotel.
 J. W. Lewis, Eureka hotel.
 J. A. Phelps, restaurant.
 I. L. Hart, newspaper.
 G. E. Hart, book store.
 L. H. Hackett, flour and feed.
 John Henderson, blacksmith.
 A. F. Jackson, blacksmith.
 Sweet & Nichols, real estate.
 S. L. Bailey, real estate.
 E. M. Carr, physician.
 W. J. Taylor, physician.
 G. W. Morrill, physician.
 Wellington Sherwood, carpenter.
 A. N. Ferris, carpenter.
 C. H. Van Slyke, carpenter.

An excellent showing was made for a town one year old, but the stocks were small and many of the buildings were of a temporary character. On August 12, 1880, when the town had assumed more substantial proportions, the Star told of the conditions in June, 1879:

Fifteen months ago the houses in Pipestone City—that is, those that could be called houses—could have been numbered on the fingers of one hand. Riley French had a good, comfortable two-story residence. D. E. Sweet was well fixed in the way of a house, as was also John Stuart. Of the business houses C. H. Bennett had the best in town. . . . Had the goods in all the stores mentioned been piled into one place, they would have made one good general stock, while in Pasco's lumber yard there was not enough material to have built a single building like that of Stuart Bros. today.

But the activities in the little town did not cease in June. At that time the local paper reported fourteen new buildings in contemplation for the next two months. All summer "the sound of the hammer and saw" was heard in the rapidly building capital of Pipestone county. The joy of the residents was complete when, on the

evening of November 26, 1879, the first train pulled into Pipestone, the Southern Minnesota having been completed to that point. It was a time of general rejoicing.

As a result of the coming of the railroad and the arrival of hundreds of new settlers to Pipestone county, the village grew rapidly in 1880 and developed into a flourishing, well-built little city. When the federal census of that year was taken, in the early summer, the population was 2222, of which number about one-fourth were engaged in business. An enumeration of the buildings in the little city of Pipestone, made in August, 1880, showed sixty-four structures, of which twenty-eight were business houses, thirty-two residences, two hotel buildings, one school house and one jail. Besides these, many others were contemplated for the fall months. The following business directory, published August 12, 1880, shows many changes from and additions to that of the year before:

Bank—Pipestone County Bank.

General Merchandise—Frank L. Pease, John L. Grun, A. S. Dyer, A. L. Ely, J. C. Kiern.

Hardware—R. J. Wiger, William H. Burt.

Farm Machinery—Riley French, Goodnow & George, T. J. Lynch, Carpenter & Phillips, Stuart Bros.

Drug Stores—C. H. Bennett, Scarf Bros.

Lumber Yards—C. L. Colman, E. W. Davies, manager; John Paul, S. H. Smart, agent.

Furniture—Chicago Furniture Co.

Hotels—Commercial hotel, by J. A. Phelps; Eureka hotel, by George W. Huntley.

Harness Shop—H. W. Corl.

Grain Dealers—Bonner & Hyde, H. C. Marsh.

Flour and Feed—Goodnow & George.

Meat Market—Banks & Glover.

Blacksmiths—Andy Jackson, Frank Morrell.

Millinery—Addie Hoagland, Mrs. Arthur.

Livery—George Walkup.

Barber Shops—Theodore D. Weed, J. Stephenson.

Book Stores—Star Book Store, D. E. Sweet.

Billiard Halls—D. L. Jones, Samuel Bailey.

Newspaper—Pipestone County Star, by I. L. Hart.

Postmaster—D. E. Sweet.

Real Estate—Sweet & Nichols, S. L. Bailey.

Attorneys—A. J. Clark, Newport & Dean.

Physicians—G. W. Morrell, E. M. Carr, W. J. Taylor.

Artisans—A. N. Ferris, carpenter; D. Sullivan, carpenter; Wellington Sherwood, carpenter; C. H. Van Slyke, carpenter; Miller & Taylor, carpenters; S. Judd, painter; J. L. Odell, plasterer; Stanfield & LaRue, plasterers.

So great had been the progress of Pipestone during the preceding year that early in 1881 came the demand for incorporation. At a mass meeting to take the necessary steps, held at Postoffice hall on January 14, A. J. Clark was chairman and I. L. Hart was secretary. There was an unanimity of opinion that incorporation should be brought about, and to draft a bill to present to the legislature a committee was chosen, consisting of J. H. Nichols, I. L. Hart, John Stuart, C. H. Bennett and Dr. W. J. Taylor. These gentlemen prepared a bill, which was approved at another mass meeting. The bill was introduced in the legislature by Representative P. J. Kniss and in due time became a law, the act being signed by the governor February 10, 1881. Under its provisions C. H. Bennett, J. H. Nichols and S. L. Bailey were named commissioners to call the first election and have charge of affairs preliminary to beginning

municipal government. The election to select the first officers was held March 29, the judges being S. L. Bailey and H. W. Corl. The village was under this form of government¹⁴ until 1901, when the city form was adopted. Following are the names of those who were elected to office under the village government:¹⁵

1881—President, A. L. Ely; trustees, Riley French, C. H. Bennett, W. J. Taylor; recorder, E. M. Carr; treasurer, John Stuart; justices, D. E. Sweet, S. H. Smart;¹⁶ constables, H. W. George, Frank Morrill.

1882—President, C. C. Goodnow; trustees, Riley French, W. J. Taylor, H. L. Johnson;¹⁷ recorder, C. J. Cawley;¹⁸ treasurer, John Stuart; assessor, E. W. Davies; constable, G. W. Huntley.

1883—President, C. C. Goodnow; trustees, A. S. Dyer, E. M. Carr, John Stuart; recorder, I. L. Hart; assessor, E. W. Davies; justice, C. H. Bennett;¹⁹ constables, H. W. George, C. C. Walkup.

1884—President, A. S. Dyer; trustees, John Stuart, H. D. Sanford, T. A. Black; recorder, J. R. Hubbard; treasurer, G. H. Gurley; assessor, E. W. Davies; justice, A. Hitchcox; constable, H. G. Stanley.

1885—President, T. A. Black; trustees, S. H. Smart, C. J. Cawley, T. J. Lynch; recorder, E. W. Davies; treasurer, G. H. Gurley; justice, George D. Green; constables, W. H. Hockabout, Q. S. Davis.

1886—President, W. W. Swett; trustees, F. A. Walker, C. J. Cawley, E. S. Hubbard; recorder, Riley French; treasurer, G. H. Gurley; justice, H. C. Thompson; constable, C. F. Sherwin.

1887—President, C. C. Goodnow; trustees, J. R. Carson, A. D. Ferris,²⁰ S. J. Perkins; recorder, A. Sechler; treasurer, H. C. Briggs; justices, George D. Green, A. Hitchcox; constable, G. S. Redmon.

1888—President, J. R. Carson; trustees,

¹⁴To remedy defects in the original incorporation act, the electors, on June 4, 1883, by a vote of 59 to 14, decided to reincorporate under the provisions of an act of the legislature of 1883, and this was done.

¹⁵Under the village form of government the license question was voted upon under the local option law at nearly every annual election. Even before incorporation, the question was submitted to the voters of Sweet township, of which Pipestone formed a part. At the first township election, on April 19, 1879, license was defeated by a vote of 23 to 55. After incorporation, on only one occasion did the against license advocates win at the polls. Following was the result on the license question under village government:

1881—License carried by a two to one vote

1882—For, 64; against, 5.

1883—For, 30; against, 9.

1884-87—Not an issue.

1888—For, 123; against, 166.

1889—For, 160; against, 30.

1890—For, 184; against, 50.

1891—For, 149; against, 91.

1892—For, 156; against, 109.

1893—For, 220; against, 76.

1894—For, 193; against, 122.

1895—For, 222; against, 125.

1896—For, 175; against, 135.

1897—For, 203; against, 109.

1898—For, 214; against, 132.

1899—For, 201; against, 125.

1900—For, 239; against, 213.

1901—For, 266; against, 143.

¹⁶Resigned in March, 1882, and S. L. Bailey chosen at a special election. Mr. Bailey died in 1883, and at a special election June 4, 1883, Robert Scarf was elected.

¹⁷Resigned in February, 1882, and C. H. Bennett appointed.

¹⁸Resigned in March, 1882, and I. L. Hart appointed.

¹⁹Resigned January 1, 1884.

²⁰Resigned January 3, 1883.

E. C. Smith, S. J. Perkins, J. J. Simenson; recorder, A. Sechler; treasurer, H. E. Briggs; constable, C. F. Sherwin.

1889—President, John Stuart; trustees, John Pearson, F. A. Walker, J. J. Simenson; recorder, E. C. Smith; treasurer, H. E. Briggs; justices, W. W. Robey, George D. Green; constable, G. S. Redmon.

1890—President, J. R. Carson; trustees, T. W. Thompson, S. W. Funk, R. W. Ervin; recorder, E. C. Smith; treasurer, H. E. Briggs; constable, John Ross.

1891—President, J. R. Carson; trustees, R. W. Ervin, S. W. Funk, M. G. Schauer; recorder, E. C. Smith; treasurer, H. E. Briggs; justices, A. Hitchcox, M. Churchill; constable, C. J. Ross.

1892—President, A. S. Dyer; trustees, C. J. Cawley, G. R. Best, George McGillivray; recorder, O. E. Book; treasurer, H. E. Briggs; constable, L. J. Clayton.

1893—President, George McGillivray; trustees, F. W. Harrington, L. Baker, E. B. Loomis; recorder, S. W. Funk; treasurer, H. E. Briggs; justices, E. L. Rork, E. Giles; constable, A. D. Brown.

1894—President, J. R. Carson; trustees, E. B. Loomis, G. L. Chesley, W. S. McDonald; recorder, S. W. Funk; treasurer, H. E. Briggs; constable, Ernest Burton.

1895—President, W. S. McDonald; trustees, S. G. Gasser, L. R. Ober, M. G. Schauer; recorder, J. H. Parker; treasurer, H. E. Briggs;²¹ justices, E. Giles,²² George D. Green;²³ constable, A. D. Brown.

1896—President, W. S. McDonald; trustees, L. R. Ober, S. G. Gasser, M. G. Schauer; recorder, J. H. Parker; treasurer, W. C. Briggs; justices, J. J. Pierce, M. Churchill; constable, S. B. Rockey.

1897—President, C. H. Bennett; trustees, C. H. Smith, Louis Hirschy, W. J. Taylor; recorder, S. W. Funk; treasurer, W. C. Briggs; constable, A. D. Brown.

1898—President, J. H. Nichols; trustees, Corry Ridgway, E. W. Davies, G. H. Gurley; recorder, F. E. Cogswell; treasurer, P. P. Cady; justices, M. Churchill, A. W. Hadwick; constable, S. B. Rockey.

1899²⁴—Trustees, G. H. Gurley, C. J. Cawley, J. F. Sterner; recorder, M. Churchill; treasurer, P. P. Cady; assessor, O. T. Gilson.

1900—President, L. H. Moore; trustees, J. R. Duffus, D. B. Whigam, L. H. Hyde; recorder, Max Menzel; treasurer, P. P. Cady; assessor, O. T. Gilson; justices, J. C.

Marshall, S. B. Rockey; constables, E. M. Kelley, G. G. Stone.

1901—President, L. H. Moore; trustees, A. Hitchcox, D. B. Whigam, M. D. Cadwell; recorder, S. E. Wharton; treasurer, M. Brown; assessor, O. T. Gilson; justice, Frazer Mackey; constable, G. A. Warner.

After the lively times resulting from the building of the town's first railroad, a short period of quiet times ensued, and the years 1881 and 1882 were not particularly ones of progress. Weather conditions were not favorable for grain production, and the town settled down to a normal basis. Aided by a bonus from the residents of Pipestone, Frazer Mackey erected a flouring mill in 1882. About a score of other buildings, mostly residences, were erected during that year.

The boom came in 1883. During that and the following year Pipestone made greater strides forward than any other town in southwestern Minnesota. It developed from a little hamlet of temporary frame structures into a town noted for its handsome stone buildings; it became one of the best advertised, most talked-of municipalities in the northwest. This change was brought about almost wholly by the operations of the land firm of Close Bros. & Co. In compliance with the terms of a contract entered into April 13, 1883, with Charles H. Bennett, the firm moved its general headquarters from LeMars, Iowa, to Pipestone, erected a handsome hotel building, and started a boom for Pipestone and Pipestone county that was the marvel of the times.²⁵ The people of Pipestone duly celebrated the signing of the contract that made certain the coming of the boom.²⁶ A commercial

²¹Died and W. C. Briggs appointed in December, 1895.

²²Resigned February 18, 1896.

²³Succeeded by J. J. Pierce October 15, 1895.

²⁴The election for president of the village council resulted in a tie vote, 193 ballots being cast for each of the candidates, E. W. Davies and L. H. Moore. The law provided that in such cases lots should be drawn under the supervision of the judges of election, but this

was not done. During the next year Pipestone did not have an executive head.

²⁵See page 286.

²⁶Among those who took an active part in furnishing the funds, real estate and town lots to meet the demands of Close Bros. & Co. and brought the matter to a successful conclusion were C. H. Bennett, C. C. Goodnow, L. H. Moore, W. J. Taylor, J. H. Nichols, D. E. Sweet, Riley French, T. A. Black and others.

club, organized July 17, 1883, did much to assist in the town's progress during the period of advancement.²⁷

Pipestone was in a constant state of turmoil during 1883, due to the building operations. Many of the business houses erected were of native stone, and the residences were of substantial and permanent character. Nearly one hundred buildings were put up during the twelve-month—a record equalled by no town in the vicinity. Real estate values soared and there were many transfers.²⁸ The value of the improvements for the year 1883 was nearly \$125,000, itemized as follows:

A. Baird, Walbridge, Moore & Corbett, Commerce block	\$20,000
Close Bros. & Co., Calumet hotel..	15,000
Public school building	15,000
Martine, Ely & Davies, Opera Hall block	10,000
Methodist church	5000
D. E. Sweet, store building	5000
D. E. Sweet, brick residence.....	5000
H. B. Marshall, residence.....	4000
Close Bros. & Co., land office and barn	3300
I. L. Hart, printing office.....	3000
E. Ewert, residence	2500
L. H. Moore, two residences.....	2500
J. J. Simenson, residence and barn	2000
C. C. Drew, store building.....	2000
C. C. Goodnow, residence and barn	2000
R. W. Ashton, residence	1600
G. D. Green, residence	1500
H. D. Sanford, residence	1500
A. D. Ferris, feed store.....	1000
N. Kennison, residence and barn..	1200
F. Sebastian, residence	1000
A. H. Merwin, residence	1000
A. Hitchcox, residence	1000
S. H. Smart, residence	1000
John Gillon, residence	1000
A. L. Ely, residence	1000
William Smith, meat market.....	800
M. E. Rutter, furniture store.....	800
Charles Whaley, addition to Merchants hotel	800
W. D. Hamlin, restaurant.....	800
S. Judd, residence	800
Walbridge & Moore, two residences	800
H. W. George, residence.....	800

²⁷The first officers of the commercial club were as follows: E. K. Walbridge, president; C. C. Goodnow, vice president; E. C. Dean, secretary; J. H. Nichols, corresponding secretary; Robert Scarf, treasurer. After a few years' life this body disbanded, but was later succeeded by other similar organizations, which played important parts in Pipestone's history.

A. W. Russell, harness shop.....	500
Bently Eykyn, photograph gallery..	500
Percy Cole, residence and carpenter shop	500
Mrs. S. L. Bailey, residence.....	500
C. C. Drew, residence.....	500
E. W. Davies, residence.....	500
C. W. Gilmore, residence.....	500
C. W. Maxfield, residence.....	500
P. F. Poorbaugh, residence.....	400
J. Stephenson, residence	350
E. E. Clement, residence.....	300
George Cooley, residence	300
S. J. Perkins, residence.....	300
H. G. Stanley, residence.....	300
William Hockabout, residence	300
Unknown, residence	300
James Delay, residence	300
A. Pooler, residence	300
J. J. Vickerman, residence.....	300
S. Y. Sichler, residence.....	300
A. W. Russell, residence	300
J. Wombaker, shoe shop.....	300
Poorbaugh & Delay, pipestone factory	250
George Rowley, wagon shop.....	250
Hubbard Bros., machine warehouse	250
John Edwards, residence	250
Rev. I. Witcombe, addition.....	250
P. Travits, addition	250
S. H. Averill, paint shop.....	200
R. W. Ashton, carpenter shop.....	200
Anton Neiss, residence	200
William Brown, residence	200
Dr. G. W. Morrill, addition.....	150
Brace & Loomis, warehouse.....	100
B. F. Taylor, barn	100
John Henderson, barn	100
Total	\$124,300

The year 1884 eclipsed the preceding one. The Burlington and Omaha railroads built to the city and added to the activities. Early in the spring, before the frost was out of the ground, building operations were begun. The Star said in April: "The outlook was never so promising. Property is changing hands at good figures, and a general feeling of confidence seems to possess our people." The year left an ineffaceable record on the history of the village. The building im-

²⁸The Rock County Herald (Luverne) on June 29, 1883, told of the doings in the neighboring village: "The boom now enjoyed by Pipestone village is phenomenal. The prices obtained for town property are such as to startle a Luverne man. With but a fraction of the population of this place and a trifling immigration, holders of town property in the former place are gathering in a harvest such as no one ever reaped in Luverne."

provements for the year amounted to over \$170,000 and were as follows:

Bank Block, including five stone store buildings built by Pipestone County Bank, W. J. Taylor, H. E. Corbett, C. Egbert and A. H. Paget	\$40,000
Syndicate Block, including three stone store buildings built by C. H. Bennett, Nichols & Stuart and Ely & Sweet	25,000
Close Bros. & Co., brick addition to Calumet hotel	20,000
Burlington Railway Co., depot, round house, etc.	7,500
Omaha Railway Co., depot, etc. ..	4,500
Presbyterian church	3,500
Hansen & Co., store building	2,500
Vosper & Delay, skating rink.....	2,200
N. S. Johnson, store building.....	1,200
Pipestone Lumber Co., office, sheds, etc.	1,000
Michel Brewing Co., branch house	1,300
Residences, store buildings, shops and additions ²⁰	64,100
Total	\$172,800

The year 1885 was not so filled with activity in the building line as had been the two preceding years. Still there was substantial growth, the value of improvements, mostly residences, amounting to \$44,650. The population, as shown by the state census of 1885, was 1109, an increase of 500 per cent in five years. A business directory issued in December, 1885, listed the following:

Banks—Pipestone County Bank, T. A. Black, president, A. H. Merwin, cashier; Bank of Southwestern Minnesota, by Stoner & Mylius, Bankers.

General Merchandise—A. L. Ely, A. S. Dyer, J. C. Kufus, W. G. Martine, J. J. Simenson, Chicago Store.

Flouring Mill—F. Mackey & Son.

Clothing—C. O. D. Clothing House, G. A. Stern, proprietor.

Druggists—C. H. Bennett, Robert Scarf, Albert Hemenover.

Hardware—George H. Gurley, Ashton Bros., Smith & Son.

Groceries—Ferris & Crandall, L. E. Pease, McHenry & Barker.

Furniture—Aleck Powell.

Newspapers—Semi-Weekly Star, Republican.

Hotels—Calumet, H. B. Upham, proprietor; Central House, John Vosper, proprietor; Merchants Hotel, Will Tower, proprietor.

Lumber Dealers—C. L. Colman, E. W. Davies, agent; John Paul, Will Irvin, agent; N. C. Foster & Co., A. Sechler, agent; William Foskett.

Boots and Shoes—A. C. Titus.

Notions and Fancy Goods—J. G. Crowell. **Farm Machinery**—Hubbard Bros., Loomis Bros., T. J. Lynch.

Meat Markets—A. R. Walling, S. J. Perkins, Smith & Goethel.

Restaurants—I. Witcombe, L. J. Clayton, J. E. Foster, Mrs. Wilson.

Jewelers—A. C. Billon, B. S. Clark.

Books and Stationery—Star Book Store, Robert Scarf, B. S. Clark.

Coal Dealers—C. J. Cawley, C. M. Chambers, N. C. Foster & Co.

Blacksmiths and Mechanics—Frank Morrill, W. H. Dickey, A. C. McLean, Morgan & Pierce.

Grain Elevators—Cargill Bros., Hodges & Hyde.

Grain Dealers—Ezra Rice, F. H. Peavey & Co., Pipestone Chamber of Commerce.

Harness Makers—F. A. Walker, W. W. Russell.

Livery Barns—George Walkup, Grey & Lane, Stuart Bros.

Photographers—Chesley & Tanner.

Millinery—Miss Addie Hoagland.

Barber Shops—S. W. Funk, Tink Rublee.

Sample Rooms—F. B. Eykyn, James Devereaux, Fred Sebastian, Ed. Buel, Milliman & Son.

Dray Lines—C. D. Fisher, O. P. Nason, J. C. Goodnow, N. Kennison, John & Henry Buell.

Shoe Makers—C. Coombs, Barney Nedham, John Krohn.

Lime, Brick and Cement—Davies & Walkup.

Dressmaking—Mrs. H. N. Hanson, Mrs. L. B. Aldrich.

Cigars and Tobacco—A. VanTassel.

Chinese Laundry—Hop Kee.

Real Estate Dealers—Close Bros. & Co., Swett & Mann, D. E. Sweet, J. H. Nichols, Walbridge & Moore, Pipestone County Bank, Bank of Southwestern Minnesota.

²⁰Including items of expenditure by William B. Close, F. L. Jones, Mr. Munroe, Walbridge & Moore, G. W. Huntley, Fred Sebastian, Mr. Forseth, O. J. Taylor, F. L. Pease, C. W. Maxfield, Mr. Harold, William Brown, F. A. Walker, S. H. Smart, C. W. Sizer, Riley French, J. B. Carson, F. Loomis, William Foskett, Harry Hall, James Conway, Mr. Wentworth, H. Wells, A. H. Paget, J. D. W. Ashton, J. Edwards, J. T. Suffield, M. Bloomley, John Gross, Barney Nedham, Peter Wiger, H. Staples, James Austin, Frank Blondin, J. Rydzek, S. Churchill, J. K. Martin, Mr. Warner.

L. Bailey, J. Grimes, Tom Cochran, C. C. Clewett, A. F. Henderson, F. Poorbaugh, T. Miller, L. Larson, J. Stare, A. Gunderson, Grey & Lane, C. C. Goodnow, S. J. Perkins, T. J. Lynch, Pipestone County, C. L. Colman, A. C. McLain, J. J. Simenson, C. L. Miller & Co., Close Bros. & Co., Ezra Rice, Peavey & Co., W. H. Dickey, Fred B. Close, R. Scarf, George Walkup, G. D. Green, M. E. Rutter, John Murphy, C. H. Bennett, Frost & Powell, Dr. Stanley, E. W. Davies, A. L. Ely, F. Mackey, J. L. Grun, B. S. Clark, A. D. Ferris, Hubbard Bros.

Attorneys—F. L. Janes, J. A. Cutler, Swett & Mann, E. C. Dean, C. W. Gilmore, Burt Newport.

Physicians—G. W. Morrill, W. J. Taylor, H. W. Merril, E. M. Carr.

In 1886 the sum of \$38,900 was expended in building improvements. Among the principal structures erected were stone buildings by C. H. Bennett, Albert Hemmeyer and A. Powell, the Baptist church, jail, etc. The improvements were more than offset, however, by loss from fire. The first and only serious conflagration in Pipestone's history occurred early in the morning of December 15, 1886, when the Calumet hotel was completely destroyed. Rev. A. S. Orcutt, pastor of the Baptist church, lost his life in the flames and three other persons were injured. The estimated loss on the building, which was owned by Col. Brockway, was \$40,000, insured for \$22,000. The loss on the furniture and fixtures, owned by L. Ellsworth, was \$5000, insured for \$3000. Fred B. Eykyn, who conducted a billiard hall in the basement, suffered a loss of \$4000, covered by \$2000 insurance.

Of conditions in 1887 the *Star* on January 6, 1888, said: "The close of 1887 found nothing of great importance in the way of improvements during the year for the *Star* to place on record. In the way of building there was little done; in fact, in business buildings there was nothing added to our growth. There was a reason for this. The sudden and rapid strides made three years previous placed our village, as such booms usually do, so far in advance of the country that a halt was necessary to let the country catch up, as it were."

In 1888 came the building of the Great Northern railroad to Pipestone, the con-

struction of the new Calumet hotel, and a system of waterworks, installed by the city. The building of the little city of Jasper before the railroad reached the town brought much business to Pipestone, all the material and supplies being secured through the county seat town. In building improvements nearly \$100,000 were expended. The next two years, 1889-1891, were not attended with much progress. In 1890 the population was 1232, a slight gain in five years. That year an electric lighting system was installed with private capital.³⁰

In 1892 came a revival, and Pipestone again advanced with rapid strides. The building improvements for the year were valued at \$170,600, according to an estimate by the *Star*. Among the items were the government Indian school, \$50,000; Masonic Temple, by Mylius & Ashton, \$20,000; power house and plant of the Pipestone Electric Light company, \$15,000; flouring mill by Mackey & Son, \$8,000; Episcopal church, \$4000; and many handsome residences. There was a considerable expenditure for new buildings in 1893, also, despite the stringency of the times. Thereafter for a few years the town was stagnant, so far as material advancement was concerned, due to the panic, poor crops and low prices. The census of 1895 showed a population of 1668, a substantial increase over former enumerations.

Despite the fact that there was not complete recovery from the hard times, Pipestone made a good showing in 1896. The building improvements were valued at \$45,775, including the installation of a telephone system, the erection of a city

³⁰The early history of Pipestone's electric lighting system contained many dark days, and, incidentally, many dark nights. In 1890 the village decided to install a plant and purchased the necessary machinery. Before it could be set up, however, an injunction by the court prohibited the village authorities from carrying out their plans. The outfit was purchased by

Martine & Loomis, who established the plant at the city pumping station. Later the property passed into the hands of H. D. Sanford, later still to the First National Bank, and then to Brown, Roe & Willard, under whose management the plant was destroyed by fire. J. T. McNerny bought the franchise and installed a second-hand plant. Later Minneapolis

hall,³¹ stone store buildings by Messrs. Moore and Walker, and several residences.

The last few years of the nineties were prosperous ones in Pipestone, as they were in all parts of the county. The building improvements in 1898 were valued at \$88,100, including \$12,200 for the First National Bank block and \$10,000 for a new building at the government school on the reservation. In 1900 over \$160,000 were expended on buildings. Among the items were \$30,000 for improvements at the Indian school, \$12,000 for improvements in the lighting plant, \$10,000 for the Presbyterian church, and \$10,000 for the court house foundation. The population in 1900 was 2536, giving Pipestone rank as one of the largest towns of southwestern Minnesota.

The change from village to city government was made in 1901, and was brought about largely through the activities of L. H. Moore, who was president of the village council. A petition was prepared and circulated by Mr. Moore, asking the judge of probate to issue the order for the beginning of the city form of government in accordance with the provisions of the state law. The petition was signed by nearly all the voters, and on July 23, 1901, Judge C. I. Ring issued the order and named September 3 as the date for the first election under the new form of government. City officers were chosen on

that date, and on September 7 the newly elected officers took the oaths of office. On September 9 the city council met for the first time. Following are the names of the residents who have served as city officials:

1901—Mayor, Corry Ridgway; aldermen, first ward, G. H. Gurley, O. T. Gilson; second ward, T. E. Robinson, F. M. Bunn; recorder, Carl S. Heath; treasurer, Mac Brown; justices, S. B. Rockey, J. Kepner.

1902 Mayor, Corry Ridgway; aldermen,³² first ward, G. H. Gurley, O. T. Gilson; second ward, T. F. Robinson,³³ C. W. Gilmore; recorder, J. E. Craig; treasurer, Mac Brown.

1903—Mayor, F. A. Walker; aldermen, first ward, O. T. Gilson, second ward, W. R. Somerville;³⁴ recorder, J. E. Craig; treasurer, Mac Brown.

1904—Mayor, F. A. Walker; aldermen, first ward, George W. Pratt, second ward, A. S. Dyer, Frazer Mackey; recorder, S. W. Funk; treasurer, T. A. Bailey; justices, S. B. Rockey, J. Kepner.

1905—Mayor, Louis Hirschy; aldermen, first ward, O. T. Gilson,³⁵ second ward, G. S. Redmon; recorder, S. W. Funk; treasurer, P. J. Wiger.

1906—Mayor, A. S. Dyer; aldermen, first ward, Pearl Russell, second ward, F. E. Pearson;³⁶ recorder, S. W. Funk; treasurer, P. J. Wiger; justices, A. W. Hadwick, J. Kepner; special municipal judge, L. W. Henderson.³⁷

1907—Mayor, W. M. Buck; aldermen, first ward, William Lockwood, second ward, G. S. Redmon; recorder, S. W. Funk; treasurer, J. H. Parker.

1908—Mayor, A. S. Dyer; aldermen, first ward, C. T. Howe, second ward, W. M. Buck; recorder, S. W. Funk; treasurer, E. M. Carr; justices, A. W. Hadwick, J. Kepner.

1909—Mayor, A. S. Dyer; aldermen, first ward, G. E. Sellers, second ward, M. E. Boomer; recorder, S. W. Funk; treasurer,

his capitalists built a modern plant and conducted the business until December, 1909. At that time Huron, South Dakota, capitalists purchased the business and have since conducted it. C. Campbell is the secretary and treasurer of the company, and Carl Oppen is the local manager.

³¹The matter of erecting a city hall was under consideration several years before, but not until 1895 was there any prospect for the building. The matter was first definitely urged when the village lawmakers were W. S. McDonald, L. R. Ober, S. G. Gasser, M. G. Schauer and J. H. Parker. These gentlemen secured plans and estimates of cost in 1895, and in 1896 were re-elected in a campaign in which the city hall question was the principal issue. The contract for the erection of the building was let June 6, 1896, to C. C. Smith, on a bid of \$6900; the corner stone was laid with ceremonies by the president of the council June 22;

and the completed structure was turned over to the village December 21. The total cost was \$7822.05. It was paid for without a bond issue.

³²After this election aldermen were elected for two year terms, one from each ward being elected each year.

³³Resigned July 18, 1903. A. S. Dyer elected at a special election August 20, 1903.

³⁴Did not qualify because he had not been a resident of the ward thirty days at the time of his election. His successor was not chosen until the next regular election.

³⁵Succeeded by Louis Hirschy, who was elected at a special election July 26, 1906.

³⁶Was succeeded by J. I. Bernard, who was chosen at a special election August 17, 1906.

³⁷Resigned February 10, 1908.

W. T. Morgan; justice, Charles H. Smith; special municipal judge, Edward Cady.³⁸

1910—Mayor, A. S. Dyer; aldermen, first ward, R. F. Wright, second ward, D. J. Swam; recorder, S. W. Funk; treasurer, W. T. Morgan; justice, A. W. Hadwick.

1911—Mayor, A. S. Dyer; aldermen, first ward, G. E. Sellers, second ward, M. E. Boomer; recorder, S. W. Funk; treasurer, W. T. Morgan; justice, J. W. Pierce.

The improvements in the city for 1901 were valued at \$100,000, including the court house. In the fall of the year came an epidemic of smallpox, which tended to retard the growth. From November 1, 1901, to May 1, 1902, 227 cases of the disease were cared for under the direction of the health officers. The progress during the first five years of the last decade

³⁸Succeeded in January, 1910, by R. P. Woodworth.

³⁹For several years prior to this time the city authorities had endeavored to bring about this improvement, but the voters had refused to authorize the necessary bond issue. At the city election in April, 1905, the proposition was car-

ried by a vote of 339 to 65, and the next month the contract for the sewer construction was let to R. F. Weston for \$11,294.

During the last few years there has not been much advance in Pipestone; in fact, there has been a falling off in population, the enumeration of 1910 showing a population of 2475, a loss of 410 in five years.⁴⁰ The year 1910 was the most active in several years, several thousand dollars worth of building improvements being made.

⁴⁰During the interim, 1905 to 1910, Pipestone's corporate limits were reduced to one-third of its former area.

CHAPTER XXV.

PIPESTONE'S INSTITUTIONS.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

PIPESTONE occupied a very inconspicuous place on the map prior to 1878. That year several business enterprises were founded and the permanency of the town was assured. With them came the beginning of the future city's splendid public school system. There was a population hardly reaching the half hundred mark in June, 1878, when for the first time the teacher's instructions became an agency for uplift in Pipestone village. The first school was opened on Monday, June 10, and was continued three months under the direction of Miss Florence Bennett. Six pupils were enrolled.

The county was then unorganized and there were, of course, no public funds with which to erect the building, so the money was raised by subscription.¹ The pioneer building was located on the site of the present Commerce block and was a 10x15 feet wooden structure, unpainted and minus clapboards, containing one door and three windows.

School district No. 1 was created in the spring of 1879, shortly after the organization of the county, with John Stuart, D. E. Sweet and W. J. Taylor as the first

board of directors. The most simply arranged first temple of learning accommodated the school population for less than two years. The rapid development of Pipestone necessitated more commodious quarters, and in 1881 the pioneer building was supplanted by a 26x40 feet frame building erected on the northeast corner of the present school site.

For three years the Pipestone public schools were conducted under the ordinary district plan. Then, late in the summer of 1882, under the provisions of a newly enacted law, the independent district plan was adopted. At the election which brought about this change, held August 21, only seven votes were cast, of which one was in opposition.² A few days later the following gentlemen were chosen members of the school board: C. C. Goodnow, I. L. Hart, George B. Brace, Riley French, S. L. Bailey and W. J. Taylor. The new board perfected an organization September 6, 1882, by electing Mr. Bailey, president; Mr. Hart, secretary; and Mr. French, treasurer. School was begun under the new organization September 18. Prof. N. F. Phillips was the principal in

¹Among those who donated funds towards the erection of the pioneer school house and the payment of the teacher's salary were D. E. Sweet, W. J. Taylor, C. H. Bennett, Reuben Clark, O. W. Bennett, S. L. Bailey, John Stuart, Max Stuart, John Stuart, J. H. Nichols and others.

²The call for this election was dated August 7, 1882, and was signed by H. D. Sanford, S. L. Bailey, H. W. George, I. L. Hart, W. J. Taylor, C. C. Goodnow, Riley French, A. R. Green, D. E. Sweet, C. H. Bennett and Brace & Hubbard.

charge,³ and Miss Emma Stanton was his assistant.

When the school house was erected in 1881 it was expected to answer the purpose for several years to come, but there was a wonderful development in the village during the early eighties, and within a year it became apparent that added school room must be supplied. On October 6, 1882, the electors of the district authorized a bond issue of \$11,500 for the construction of a new building,⁴ and it was constructed in 1883. The funds originally voted were found insufficient to complete the structure, and in October, 1883, additional bonds to the amount of \$5000

³Prof. Phillips remained at the head of the Pipestone school two years. Succeeding superintendents have been H. E. French (1881-83), G. W. Young (1893-99), F. E. George (1899-01), L. P. Cravens (1904-07), W. H. Hollands (1907-08), Theodore Saam (1908-11).

⁴At the election forty-five votes were polled, of which thirty-nine were in favor of bonds, five opposed, and one not bearing on the issue. The forty-five voters were Robert Searf, J. C. Goodnow, W. J. Taylor, S. L. Bailey, George Walkup, E. W. Davies, G. W. Huntley, H. W. George, A. R. Green, H. H. Cawley, C. W. Gilmore, J. C. Kiern, W. T. Davis, Walter S. Russell, D. E. Sweet, Frank Carr, A. L. Ely, Mrs. George D. Green, Mrs. Frazier Mackey, Mrs. F. L. Pease, F. L. Pease, A. H. Merwin, J. Stephenson, George B. Brace, Samuel Stanton, C. Merrill, C. H. Bennett, Mrs. C. H. Bennett, William Smith, Frank Loomis, W. Dockabont, C. C. Walkun, George D. Green, Peter Wiger, W. H. Russell, M. E. Duff, E. C. Dean, J. Hubbard, W. H. Mackey, P. J. Wiger, J. Vickerman, C. C. Goodnow, R. Marshall, Thomas Glover and L. L. Hart.

⁵The following have been graduated from the Pipestone high school:

1891—Katherine French, William Dyer, William Mackey, William Ewert.

1892—Albert Hart, Joseph F. Clewitt.

1893—None.

1894—Mamie Weeks.

1895—None.

1896—Mara Link, Maud Walker.

1897—Mabel L. Walker, Mabel C. Pike, Clara B. Link, William E. Rutter, Seward B. Dyer, Fred C. Smith, Alexander G. McKnight, Ethel A. George, Mary E. Best, Leon B. Smith, Albert P. Grun, J. Roland Ware, Willis R. Norton.

1898—Henry H. Searf, Adelaide E. Clayton, Alexander L. Janes, Grace M. Wilson, Paul F. Brown, Florence M. Gilmore, Janet B. Best, Fred S. Hanson, E. Estelle Smith, Samuel A. Hatch, Edith P. Whitehead, Grace L. Payne, Charles O. Goodnow.

1899—L. Blaine King, Ida B. Carr, LaBelle E. Pike, Pratt M. Serrurier, M. Eden Albee, Carrie M. Ober, Jennie Stuart, Jonathan A. Morris, Arthur C. Walker, Burl S. W. Patten, Margaret A. Link, Louise K. Marshall, D. Jewette Albee, Pascal H. Ware, Ralph G. Hart.

1900—Ernest Argetsinger, Warrington Brown, Lewis Buell, Marion L. Farmer, Daisy Morton, Libby Nuttle, Warren Stillwell.

1901—Myrtle E. Akers, Garfield W. Brown, Gertrude E. Carey, S. Edwin Clement, Clemmings R. Conant, Ina I. Conant, Laura F. Dan-

were voted. The new school house was a two-story, five-room building, brick veneered, and was located in the center of the school block. Further growth made it necessary in 1889 to utilize the old frame building, and even then all the rooms were crowded to their utmost capacity.

A high school department was added to the graded schools in 1890, from which the first class was graduated June 11, 1891. An excellent high school has been maintained since that date, from which 244 pupils have received diplomas.⁵ An alumni association was formed in June, 1897, and is still an active organization.

For ten years the brick veneered build-

neker, Howard V. Dyer, M. Irma George, Susie I. Janes, Charlotte L. Link, Lillie M. Long, J. Edna Millren, Dot P. Morris, Charles W. Nuttle, Mabelle A. Plank, Roy F. Smith, Jessie E. Walkun, Daisy B. Witcombe.

1902—Ella F. Patten, Frances I. Harrington, Lulu H. Reed, Laura Cutting, Kittie Hart, L. Pearl Green, Bertha Olsen, Maude Taylor, Warren Stearns.

1903—Georgia W. Bartlett, Florence M. Cady, Margaret G. Cawley, Agnes M. Carley, Mabel Craig, Kittie A. Davies, M. Mavne Davey, Edward P. Cady, Evan J. Evans, Charles H. Morton, Flora A. Evans, Carrie S. Harrison, Margaret M. Hines, Allie I. Humble, Rebecca W. Loomis, Mary E. Millren, Margaretha K. Stanton, R. Ernest McDonald, Halbert C. Parker, Gale N. Walker, Samuel D. Young.

1904—Mayme Taylor, Desmona Ervin, Belle Woodman, Jessie M. Cadwell, Florence Adah Nash, Ollie J. Van Scotter, Rose L. Selzer, David W. George, Clara B. Fish, George L. Argetsinger, Emory C. Rehman, Irvin D. Sullivan, Olivia C. Anderson, Grace E. Hall, Mary G. Ryan, Clarence M. Stearns, Milo O. Brush, Walter H. Paulsen, Hazel M. Funk, Grace P. Witcombe, Sarah E. Fisk, Elsie E. Argetsinger, William T. Morgan.

1905—Grace Craig, Hazel Denhart, Frances Harrison, Bessie Jones, Jennie Jones, Alton Stillwell, Pearl Alma Nash, Ethel E. Reed, Flora E. Ames, Frances P. Bunn, John E. Schanler, Alma L. Farmer, Wilbur M. Fisk, Vera L. Hitchcox, Mabel A. Horr, Clarice B. Cady, Mabelle C. Brown, Emma A. Clark, Mabel A. Cunningham, Florence W. Schrader, Floretta S. McAllister, Emma A. Woodman, Eugenia S. Cunningham.

1906—Gertrude E. Evans, Lillian L. Markel, Charlotte L. Howe, George W. Plank, Sarah A. Robinson, Lena Phillips, Clara R. Pratt, William K. Linnitt, Alice H. Henderson, Elizabeth G. Hines, Blanche V. Walker, William R. Marsh, Marjorie P. Nichols, Jennie M. DeHart, Ella K. Delaney, George P. Gurlev.

1907—Elwin O. Older, Violet R. Markel, Edith B. Johnson, Mabelle E. Swan, Henry F. Schanler, Ida Mae DeHart, James L. Dougherty, Florence B. Huston, Laura Inez Haney, Howard T. Ober, Jane E. Taylor.

1908—Ruth J. Taylor, Maude Blanchard, Gladys Evans, Ella A. Stearns, Blanche I. Carr, Leola F. Walkun, Nellie R. Patterson, Arthur H. Staudenmaier, Joseph L. Rasque, Florence M. Crawford, Myrtle I. Harrison, J. Marguerite Simenson, Aura M. Hitchcox, Mary J. Argetsinger, Rebecca D. Walkun, Bessie M. Rieger, Alice C. Hagedorn, Leila M. Clayton, Ray E. Denhart, Isom W. Haskill, Anna K. McCaffrey.

ing housed the public schools of Pipestone and then fell a victim to the fire fiend. It was destroyed early in the morning of March 29, 1893, bringing a loss of \$19,100. Of this loss less than \$9000 was recovered in insurance. Immediately steps were taken to rebuild. At a school meeting on April 22, 1893, bonds to the amount of \$40,000 were authorized for the erection of a new building and the payment of bonds about to fall due. Plans were prepared by C. P. Brown, of Sioux City, and on July 1 the board of education awarded the contract for the construction of a new building and the installation of a heating plant to J. D. Carroll, of St. Paul Park, on a bid of \$30,000. During the process of construction the schools were conducted in halls and rooms in different parts of the city. The handsome, three-story, native stone building was ready for occupancy in the fall of 1894, being dedicated on the evening of October 4.

A final improvement, increasing Pipestone's educational facilities, is an event of recent occurrence. A bond issue of \$20,000 was authorized by a vote of 95 to 19 on November 10, 1909, and the proceeds were used in the construction of an addition equal in size to the main building. The cost of the improvement, which was made in 1910, considerably exceeded the bond issue and was paid from an accumulated fund in the treasury. The total cost of the improvement was about \$40,000. In the matter of equipment and efficiency Pipestone has a school system to inspire justifiable pride.

Lydia Lange, Earle D. Jenckes, Floyd A. Nefeler, Maude M. Howes.

1909—Helen Denhart, Blanche Gilmore, Elbert Taylor, Hazel Cogswell, Barbara Dougherty, Anna Powers, Mattie DeHart, Floyd Kufus, Ada Markel, Florence Ewing, Myrtle Garrett, Inez Gilmore, Earl Bartling, Alma Nichols, Gertrude Ford, Nellie Dodd, Dela Beck, Edward Denhart, Mary O'Connell, Bertha Phillips, Jennie Mel-lom, Philo Caulkins.

UNITED STATES INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Pipestone is the home of an institution that has fame far reaching, one of the few of its kind in the middle west—a government Indian training school. The plant is no small affair, but comprises nearly a dozen substantial buildings, all constructed of the Pipestone quartzite. It is situated near the center of the Pipestone reservation, overlooking the famous quarries, distant about one mile from the business center of the city. The school has a large enrollment of Uncle Sam's wards and draws its patronage from many parts of Minnesota, the Dakotas and Wisconsin.

The establishment of an Indian training school on the red man's sacred land was conceived many years before its founding became a reality. A serious obstacle to the early settlement of Pipestone county came from a mistaken idea that the region was infested with savages attracted by the wealth of pipestone. As a means to overcome this impression, D. C. Whitehead, one of the promoters of the Pipestone colony, so early as 1875, suggested that congress be asked for a \$50,000 appropriation for the establishment of a school on the lines of the famous Carlisle institution, where young Indians from the northwest could be brought in contact with civilization. It was believed that such an enterprise would prove attractive to prospective settlers.

The measure was impracticable at the time, but the idea was from that time never allowed to remain dormant, and finally the pioneer's suggestion bore fruit. This was not accomplished without many

1910—Oscar E. Ashton, Mary J. Bailey, Martha I. Friedrich, Mark D. Fish, Clifton Frank, Eula V. Gaither, Fannie E. Harper, Daisy L. Lawrence, Katherine E. Liebenstein, Nina G. Marsh, Lotta G. Nims, Persis M. Nichols, Burt H. Raymond, Arthur R. Stillwell, Mary Walkup, Rhea M. Zabokrtsky.

discouragements. Many approved the plan and a few kept agitating the matter, but some laughed and a great many took no interest whatever in it. The plans to bring about the establishment of the school were seriously hampered during the eighties by the attempts to secure homesteads on the reservation and the attempts of the government to eject the claimants. After that matter was disposed of a bill passed congress for the appraisal and sale of all except a quarter section of the reservation, but the appraisal being unsatisfactory to the Indians, the plan fell through.

Not until the winter of 1889-90 were conditions propitious for beginning an active campaign. Then, there being no impediment so far as title to the reservation vesting in the United States was concerned, and there having developed a strong sentiment throughout the United States in favor of educating the Indians, active measures were taken in Pipestone to bring about the establishment of the industrial school. In February, 1890, C. H. Bennett and L. H. Moore prepared and had printed hundreds of copies of a petition to congress, asking for the establishment of the school and the creation of a national park on the reservation. The petition was signed by practically every resident of Pipestone county. Copies were sent to all parts of the United States, and friends of the measure had no difficulty in securing large numbers of signers. The measure was indorsed by the boards of trade and chambers of commerce of St. Paul, Minneapolis, Duluth, Winona and some of the smaller cities; many hundreds of Indians on the Yankton and Brule reservations gave their aid to the enterprise and signed the petition.

The entire Minnesota delegation in congress approved the plan, and about March 1, 1890, Congressman John Lind intro-

duced the bill, with the national park feature eliminated. He secured its passage in the house, but action in the senate was deferred. Mr. Lind took the matter up again the next year, and on February 5, 1891, upon the motion of Senator Stockbridge, the bill passed the senate, under suspension of the rules, by a unanimous vote. President Harrison signed the bill a few days later. The act provided for the erection of a building at a cost of not more than \$30,000 and the maintenance of the school and appropriated for immediate use \$25,000.

The contract for the erection of the first building was let in October, 1891, to J. M. Poorbaugh. It was built of native stone and was accepted by the government October 1, 1892. C. J. Crandall was appointed superintendent of the Indian industrial school, and he opened the school February 2, 1893. The first class consisted of only six pupils, who were transferred from the Keshena, Wisconsin, boarding school, but within a short time there was an enrollment of fifty—the capacity of the institution at that time. For some years difficulty was encountered in securing appropriations from congress for additions, but later they were forthcoming, and nearly a quarter of a million dollars have been expended for improvements. Superintendent Crandall was succeeded in November, 1894, by DeWitt S. Harris, and he in August, 1904, by W. S. Campbell.

The institution developed into one of the most popular schools of the kind in the United States, and hundreds of Indian children have received their training in it. A government farm is maintained in connection.

Of late there has been agitation in favor of discontinuing the Indian school and founding in its stead a state agricultural school, or a branch of the United

States soldiers' home, either of which will doubtless be brought about in course of time.

THE CHURCHES.

Ten church societies maintain organizations in Pipestone, as follows: Methodist Episcopal, Presbyterian, Baptist, German Evangelical, Catholic, Episcopal, German Lutheran, Norwegian Lutheran, First Church of Christ, Scientist; and Seventh Day Adventist. With the exception of the Scientists, all these organizations have church edifices.

The religious history of Pipestone began almost simultaneous with the settlement of Pipestone county, for it is recorded that on June 25, 1876, when there was only a handful of men claiming Pipestone county as their home, Rev. E. H. Bronson conducted religious services in C. H. Bennett's little office building on the Pipestone townsite. During the following year Rev. Bronson and J. M. Bull, who was converted to the Christian religion at the meeting of 1876, held occasional services at Pipestone, but there were not regularly assigned pastors or church organizations until 1878. The first denominations to enter the field were the Presbyterians and Methodists, who began their labors at about the same time. The former were the first to have regular preaching services, but the Methodist society was organized a few weeks before that of the Presbyterian.

The pioneer of Methodism in Pipestone was Rev. J. T. Suffron, who arrived with his household goods from Luverne on September 18, 1878. On the first Sabbath after getting settled in his new home he conducted services in the school house. At the Minnesota conference, which convened in Minneapolis October 5 of the same year, Rev. Suffron was regularly ap-

pointed to the charge, his territory embracing Pipestone county and Flaudreau, Dakota territory. At the first quarterly conference, held in Reuben Clark's store building Saturday evening, October 29, a church organization was brought about.⁶ Of the first Methodist service and his experiences during the first two years of his service in Pipestone county, Rev. Suffron, in an article prepared for the press in February, 1904, said:

Of the pleasurable reminiscences that come to mind is our first public church service, on the first Sunday morning after getting on our homestead. Then, as the first appointed pastor of the county, I gave my first discourse—possibly by some called a sermon. The talk was based on "Pure Religion and Undefiled," etc. House of worship, a little frame, boarded-up school house, some 12x14 feet, standing not far from the present stand pipe. Having no floor, the pulpit was the virgin prairie soil. Congregation, 14. Instead of oil finished oak pews, we had nail kegs with pine boards, one side of which was planed. We had "all things common"—very common. As winter came on I had as an associate pastor the venerable "Father Thayer," of the Presbyterian church, he preaching in the store room of Stuart Bros. and I in the store of Reuben Clark. There, among cottons and calicos, shoes and soap, were delivered sermons, thought, no doubt, by some more or less masterly (more likely, less). Looking back at the material honoring us by their attendance during those early years, pleasant thoughts come up.

We hear very much these later years of the little interest in attending church service by our business and professional men. Not so in our beginnings. Why, the very brain of our city and vicinity were usually in attendance. To begin with, our two sprightly young bachelors, now the Hon. J. H. Nichols and J. H. Parker, were commonly in attendance. . . . Then with them as business men were Robert Scarf, D. E. Sweet, Stuart brothers, Reuben Clark and others. Of the professions, Dr. E. M. Carr, Dr. W. J. Taylor, E. C. Dean, Esq., and others. Of representative farmers, Duncan Stuart, W. B. Brown, Henry Sanford and others. Our congregations were of the very culture of the city and surrounding country. . . .

The writer's duties for those two years, 1878 and 1879, were countrywise as well as city. There being no defined township lines, our church services were defined as to locality by the names of leading farmers

⁶Article by Rev. J. T. Suffron, May, 1894.

in the given neighborhoods. What is now Cazenovia was the Gilson and Whigam neighborhood; village of Trosky was designated Fred Kurz; Jasper, as Carnegie; township of Grange, as Matt Easland; village of Edgerton, as E. W. Day. Many of those homes were yet in part or whole sod shanties, but in every case an open door was offered me.

Rev. Suffron was pastor of the Pipestone Methodist church until 1881. He was succeeded by Rev. I. Whitcombe, who was in charge until the fall of 1884. Under his pastorate the first church building in Pipestone and the third in Pipestone county was erected. At a trustees' meeting June 20, 1883, a building committee was appointed as follows: Rev. I. Whitcombe, Dr. W. J. Taylor, Robert Scarf and Dr. E. M. Carr. Work of laying the foundation was started October 15, and the building was ready for occupancy February 17, 1884. It was a neat little building, 30x50 feet, with sixteen foot posts, and had a seating capacity of 350 persons. The cost was \$2400. At the time the building was first used for worship, \$828 had been collected on subscriptions and \$500 had been received from the church extension society. In a collection at the first services \$271.64 were raised. The services on the day of opening were conducted by Rev. J. M. Bull, assisted by Rev. I. Whitcombe and Rev. Charles Thayer, of the Presbyterian church. The indebtedness having been fully wiped out, the formal dedication took place August 2, 1885, the service being conducted by Bishop Foss, assisted by Rev. E. R. Lathrop and others.⁷

The pioneer church building was occupied seven years, and was destroyed by fire January 25, 1891. Hardly had the smoke of the conflagration cleared away before Rev. G. S. Perry, the pastor, was raising funds to replace it. He was suc-

cessful, and the new building was completed during the summer at a cost of \$3300, including furnishings. It was dedicated November 15, 1891, by Rev. George R. Hair. Among the pastors of the Methodist church in Pipestone, succeeding Rev. Whitcombe, were F. M. Rule, 1885-88; G. W. Jenkins, J. W. Powell, G. S. Perry, L. D. King, D. C. McCollm and J. F. VanCamp. During the pastorate of Rev. King a parsonage was erected at a cost of \$2000.

The first religious service conducted in Pipestone by a Presbyterian minister was held June 2, 1878, by Rev. Charles Thayer. That pioneer clergyman in recent years wrote as follows of his coming to Pipestone and the holding of the first services:

In May, 1878, I came to Luverne as the pioneer home missionary of the Presbyterian church, and later gathered and organized the churches of Luverne and Beaver Creek. Among the first to welcome me at Luverne was Dr. G. W. Morrill, who was about to move to his claim near Pipestone. He urged me to include Pipestone in my field. I visited the place June 1 and found a "city" of eight families, and very few settlers on the prairie. Next day—the Sabbath—I held two services at Stuart's store, with congregations of about twenty-five. I arranged for regular services once in four weeks. This arrangement continued through the year.

The Mankato Presbytery, in session at Jackson September 11, 1878, appointed a committee consisting of Revs. Joseph B. Libble, Edward Savage, D. G. Lyon, the synodical missionary; and Charles Thayer, to organize one or more churches in the field to which Rev. Thayer had been ministering. After personal visitation and correspondence, the committee decided on Pipestone as one of the places in which a church should be organized, and Rev. Thayer was authorized to proceed with the work. On October 27, in company

⁷It was mentioned in our last issue that the Methodist Episcopal church at this place would be dedicated last Sunday, providing money could be raised to pay the indebtedness, which was about \$900. The pastor of the church and sev-

eral of the trustees went to work with a will last week and by Sunday night, with subscriptions and cash paid in, they had raised \$925, which covered all the indebtedness."—Pipestone County Star, August 4, 1885.



SOME PIPESTONE CHURCHES

with Rev. D. G. Lyon, he visited Pipestone and held the first communion services. These were held in the store room of Stuart Bros., and sixteen persons, including the clergymen, communed. Eleven of those present made application for the organization of a Presbyterian church and the preliminary steps were taken at that time.

During the next visit of Rev. Thayer, on November 24, 1878, in Pipestone's little frame school house, the organization was perfected with the following twelve members: Rev. Charles Thayer, the pastor; Dr. and Mrs. G. W. Morrill and their daughter, Mary F. Morrill, who had formerly been members of the Congregational church at Afton, Minnesota; C. H. Bennett and Adelaide G. Bennett, his wife, who had been members of the Congregational church at LeMars, Iowa; Duncan Stuart and Jennie Stuart, his wife, and their four children, John, Jessie and Nancy Stuart and Maggie Hutton, all from the Presbyterian church of Richland, Minnesota. Upon the organization a committee composed of Dr. G. W. Morrill, John Stuart and C. H. Bennett was chosen to look after the affairs of the church in lieu of church officers. On September 20, 1879, Dr. Morrill was chosen church elder.

Until the spring of 1879 services were held every four weeks; then Rev. Thayer began preaching every alternate Sunday morning, holding services the same afternoon at Flandreau, which had been united with Pipestone to form one pastoral charge. In June, 1879, Rev. H. V. Rice, a licentiate, took charge of the new field and was the pastor until August, 1880, during which time there were eight ad-

ditions to the membership. A long vacancy followed, there being no regular pastor until Rev. Thayer was again assigned to the charge November 1, 1883.* During his incumbency, which continued until November 1, 1885, the house of worship was erected.

A legal organization was perfected when the society was incorporated January 8, 1884, with the following named trustees: C. H. Bennett, John Stuart, C. C. Goodnow, T. A. Black and A. Hitchcox. A little later in the same year plans were laid for raising funds with which to erect the building. In the latter part of July Rev. John Irwin, acting as synodical missionary, and Rev. H. H. Wilson, Jr., acting for the board of church extension, visited Pipestone, and through their assurances of support it was decided to undertake the work at once. The board of church extension donated \$500, Rev. Wilson \$200, and the Ladies' Aid society raised \$300, with which they bought the site. The building committee consisted of Rev. Charles Thayer, chairman; A. Hitchcox and John Stuart. The structure, which cost, complete, \$2700, was built during the fall and early winter, but it was not furnished until the spring of 1885. It was dedicated by Rev. George F. McAfee April 5.⁹ At the time of dedication, a Sabbath school was organized with a membership of over fifty.

The present home of the Presbyterians is a handsome red stone building erected in 1900 at a cost of nearly \$10,000. It is one of the finest church edifices in southwestern Minnesota, is greatly enjoyed by the society, and is the pride of every resident of the city. The new building was dedicated Sunday morning, No-

*During this time services were occasionally held, conducted by the following ministers: Rev. J. K. Alexander, of Jackson; Rev. John H. Monroe, of Luverne; Rev. Edwin L. Lord, a student who spent his 1882 vacation in Pipestone; Rev. D. G. Lyon, Rev. A. K. Baird and Rev. Charles Thayer.

⁹C. H. Bennett has furnished a list of the buildings in which the Presbyterians worshipped before the erection of their house of worship, as follows: Stuart's store building, Reuben Clark's store building, the public school house, Opera hall, the Methodist church and Mr. Bennett's residence.

venber 4, 1900, the dedicatory sermon being preached by Rev. J. T. Henderson, a former pastor.¹⁰

The third religious society organized in Pipestone was the First Baptist church, which dates its existence from May 16, 1882. During the year of organization the society had only fourteen members, as follows: John Pearson, C. W. Fenlason and E. C. Dean, who were the trustees; Rev. H. B. Marshall, Mrs. G. D. Green, Mrs. Emma Fenlason, Mrs. John Pearson, Mahala Willey, Sylvia Fenlason, Horace G. Willey, Mary J. Rigby, Adelia Sechler, Lizzie Sechler and Adelbert Roberts. The church had no regularly installed pastor until August, 1883, when Rev. H. B. Marshall was called to the pulpit.¹¹

For several years the Baptists held their services in the building occupied as a court house. Rev. A. S. Orcutt, who was later to meet his death in the Calumet hotel fire, was assigned to the charge in July, 1885, and a short time later he and the church members set to work to erect a house of worship. The building, which at the time was the largest church edifice in Pipestone, was erected during the summer and fall of 1886. It was dedicated, free of debt, November 21, 1886. The cost, including the site, was \$3300. A Sabbath school was organized in March, 1886, with G. L. Morgan as superintendent.

¹⁰Following is a list of the names of the pastors who have filled the pulpit of the Pipestone Presbyterian church: Charles Thayer (home missionary), June 2, 1878, to June 1879; H. V. Rice (home missionary), June 8, 1879, to August, 1881; Edwin Lord (home missionary), May 1, 1882, to August 27, 1882; Charles Thayer, November 1, 1883, to November 1, 1885; W. F. Mathews, April 1, 1886, to November 1, 1886; Alexander S. Foster, Jan. 1, 1887, to December 1, 1888; R. J. Crosswell (temporary supply), March 1, 1889, to April 1, 1889; J. H. Clark, April 1, 1889, to May 1, 1891; J. T. Henderson (temporary supply), May 16, 1891, to September 1, 1891; William Frazer (temporary supply), October 15, 1891, to April 15, 1892; J. T. Henderson, May 1, 1892, to September 1, 1898; W. G. Connell, February 12, 1899, to March 1, 1903; O. T. Langfitt, June 15, 1903, to fall of 1908; W. F. Jones, fall of 1908 to present time.

¹¹The pastors of the Baptist church have been as follows: H. B. Marshall, August, 1883,

Zion's church of the German Evangelical society was organized in 1889 with the following members: William Passer, Emma Passer, J. J. Natzke, H. Thies, Caroline Thies, William Lange, Louise Lange, Anna Ganfield, Mary Klensing, Maria Lange, C. C. Schroeder and wife, M. G. Schauer and wife, George Rickerman, Jane Rickerman, Caroline Bates, Noah Bartimas and wife, Eli Bartimas, Margaretha Bartimas. The first pastor was S. B. Goetz, who ministered to the congregation only a short time.¹²

For nine years the members of the German Evangelical society were without a house of worship. A building costing \$2500 was erected in 1898. It was dedicated November 13 of that year by Bishop Bowman, of Chicago. A parsonage was erected just south of the church in 1901 at a cost of \$1600.

St. Leo's Catholic church of Pipestone is one of the older religious organizations of the city. So early as 1878 those of the faith in Pipestone county were recognized as a mission by the Catholic authorities, and from that date until 1881 Father C. Keibel ministered to their spiritual wants. Under his charge there were twenty-seven baptisms in Pipestone county. He was succeeded by Father William Keuel, who remained until 1883 and under whose administration there were thirteen baptisms. Father J. Conway ministered to the wants

to June, 1884; A. S. Orcutt, July, 1885, to December, 1886; S. G. Adams, December, 1886, to July, 1888; John Whiting, October, 1888, to April, 1889; T. T. Morse, April, 1889, to October, 1890; R. W. Lowe, November, 1890, to September, 1892; Rev. Trumble, to December, 1892; C. T. Hollowell, March, 1893, to October, 1895; J. T. Word and Rev. Carlson, short time in 1896; Willard Fuller, October, 1896, to November, 1898; G. L. Conley, May, 1899, to January, 1901; S. McMinnis, June, 1902, to September, 1905; D. C. Smith, September, 1907, to October, 1907; D. D. Day, April, 1908, to September, 1909; J. W. Hagerty, October, 1910, to the present.

¹²Following are the names of the pastors who have filled the pulpit of Zion's church: S. B. Goetz and G. A. Lippert (1889-90). F. Wolter (1890-91), A. Zabel (1891-93), Luverne and Marshall pastors (1893-95), A. Ehler (1895-96), D. Gronig (1896-98), F. H. Draeger (1899-01), C. F. Sydow (1901-05), G. J. Krienke (1905-07), William Walter (1907-08), Karl Meckel (1908-11).

of his people in Pipestone county until 1885, and he was succeeded by Father F. P. Kervick, of Avoca, who had charge of the Pipestone church fifteen years. The present pastor, Father Joseph Mangan, took charge in March, 1900.

The building of a church edifice was projected in 1887. The trustees at that time were Rt. Rev. John Ireland, D. D., president; Very Rev. Monseigneur A. Ravoux, vice president; Rev. F. P. Kervick, pastor; James Maguire, secretary; Anthony Minneghan, treasurer. The building committee consisted of T. Kennedy, L. V. Ackerman, Anton Webber, John Dannuth, John Murphy, R. O'Connell, James Maguire, Anthony Minneghan and Rev. F. P. Kervick. The contract was let September 28, 1887, and the corner stone was laid October 30. There was delay after this event, and the building was not completed until the summer of 1889. The dedication occurred September 22, witnessed by nearly 400 people. Catholics were present from Woodstock, Airlie, Jasper, Trosky, Lake Benton, Elkton, Edgerton and Flandreau. The dedicatory services were conducted by Archbishop John Ireland, whose subject was "The Duty of the Creature to His Creator." The cost of the building, 34x68 feet in size, was about \$4500. A parochial residence, just north of the church, was purchased in 1900 at a cost of \$1400.

The first Episcopal service in Pipestone was held in January, 1887, conducted by Bishop Gilbert and Rev. D. G. Gunn in the Methodist church building. Thereafter at intervals there was preaching by Rev. Gunn and Rev. C. T. Ware, and in 1890 a church was organized. Having gained considerable strength, the members of the church undertook and carried out the enterprise of building a little stone church building. The corner stone was laid by Archdeacon Appleby

in 1892, but it was not until May 9, 1894, that the building was consecrated. This service was conducted by Bishop Gilbert, assisted by Archdeacon Appleby. The structure cost \$3000.

The history of the German Lutheran church of Pipestone extends back to the year 1892, when the organization was perfected. The first pastor was Rev. Betcher. The church building was erected in 1900 and cost \$1500. It was dedicated October 14, 1900.

The Norwegian Lutherans first held religious services in Pipestone in 1893, when Rev. G. O. Skaret, of Flandreau, held meetings. Later a local church was organized, but its members were few, and for many years there was no resident pastor, although there was preaching with considerable regularity by pastors from nearby points. In the summer of 1904 a house of worship was erected at a cost of about \$1800, the first service being held therein November 13, 1904, conducted by Rev. L. V. Fossum. The church officers at that time were Ole Skailand, secretary; J. J. Simenson, treasurer; Peter Westli, Peter Wiger, Christ Hansen and J. J. Simenson, trustees. Exercises incident to laying the corner stone and dedication of the church home were held November 9, 1905. The address in connection with laying the corner stone was given by Rev. G. O. Skaret, and the dedication ceremonies were performed by Dr. Broeckman, of St. Paul. The structure was dedicated free from debt.

The Christian Scientists have maintained an organization in Pipestone since 1895. In September, 1902, the society was incorporated under the name First Church of Christ, Scientist, of Pipestone. Services are held regularly.

A church of the Seventh Day Adventists was organized April 18, 1897. A church home was erected in 1901 at a cost

of \$706, and was dedicated February 23, 1902, by Elder Andrew Mead, of Brainerd, assisted by Elder M. B. VarKirk, of Eagle Lake, Minnesota. At the time of dedication there was a membership of twenty-seven.

THE LODGES.

The first fraternal organization perfected in Pipestone was the Masonic. Early in the month of December, 1880, a number of Masons gathered in a small room on Olive street and decided to ask for a dispensation from the grand lodge. The dispensation was granted January 13, 1881, and eleven days later the organization was brought about in the hall over Pease's dry goods store. The first officers and members were as follows: Riley French, W. M.; J. C. Goodnow, S. W.; W. J. Taylor, J. W.; I. L. Hart, secretary; A. L. Ely, treasurer; S. H. Smart, S. D.; H. D. Sanford, J. D.; E. W. Davies, S. S.; W. J. Pratt, J. S.; M. Bromley, tyler; C. C. Goodnow, Wellington Sherwood and Samuel L. Bailey, Sr. The lodge was chartered January 13, 1882, and named Quarry Lodge No. 148, A. F. & A. M. The organization under the charter was brought about March 11, 1882.

In the fall of 1887 signers of more than the constitutional number of Royal Arch Masons were secured to a petition to the grand chapter of Minnesota for the organization of a subordinate chapter at Pipestone. Favorable action was taken and a dispensation granted November 28,

1887. C. C. Goodnow was designated to act as high priest, I. L. Hart, king, and W. G. Martine, scribe, and on December 6 the lodge was duly organized. During the year that the lodge was under dispensation it prospered and many names were added to the membership. At the October, 1888, session of the grand lodge a charter was granted to Triune Chapter and given the number 51.¹³

A lodge of the Order Eastern Star—Calumet Chapter No. 51—came into existence in 1893. The meeting to bring about the organization was held January 5, and on February 15 the organization was perfected under the guidance of Mrs. Mary C. Taylor, of Minneapolis, assisted by Mesdames Pattee and Brierley.¹⁴ The lodge was constituted June 2, 1893.

Masonic temple, a three-story stone building in which the three Masonic orders have their homes, was dedicated on the evening of December 6, 1893.

The second fraternal order in Pipestone was the Odd Fellows, which was organized a short time after the Masonic charter was granted. Hope Lodge No. 89, I. O. O. F., was instituted June 29, 1882, by Grand Deputy Matthews, of Lake Benton. The following were the first officers and members: W. J. Taylor, N. G.; I. L. Hart, V. G.; G. W. Huntley, P. G.; J. H. Nichols, secretary; George D. Green, treasurer; Charles Smith and J. G. Bennett. Hope Lodge now has a membership of over 160.

¹³The charter members of Triune Chapter No. 51 were Fred Bloom, Henry E. Briggs, W. Currier Briggs, E. M. Carr, C. M. Chambers, J. F. Casey, E. W. Davies, E. C. Dean, G. C. Eyland, A. L. Ely, A. S. Foster, H. E. French, W. W. Fletcher, William Frost, C. C. Goodnow, C. W. Gilmore, I. L. Hart, J. R. Hubbard, F. L. Janes, W. G. Martine, L. H. Moore, Charles Mylius, George McGillivray, G. H. Perry, F. L. Pease, A. G. Preston, O. Ruddy, H. D. Sanford, Edgar Shepherd, M. G. Schauer, John Stuart, R. E. Thomas and F. A. Walker.

¹⁴The first officers and charter members were as follows: Mrs. Olivia Smith, W. M.; M. Churchill, W. P.; Miss Lulu Taylor, A. W. M.;

Mrs. A. F. Rublee, secretary; Mrs. C. W. Gilmore, treasurer; Mrs. C. C. Goodnow, conductress; Mrs. J. C. Goodnow, assistant conductress; Mrs. C. F. Marsh, Adah; Mrs. E. W. Davies, Ruth; Mrs. M. Churchill, Esther; Mrs. H. E. Briggs, Martha; Mrs. J. L. Jones, Electa; Mrs. M. W. Ware, chaplain; Miss Stella Churchill, organist; Joseph Nuttle, sentinel; C. W. Gilmore, M. W. Ware, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mylius, H. E. Briggs, A. F. Rublee, Mrs. Joseph Nuttle, E. W. Davies, J. L. Jones, C. C. Goodnow, A. G. Smith, Dr. and Mrs. W. J. Taylor, Mrs. Robert Scarf, William McGillivray, Leo A. Moore, Walter Sanford, George McGillivray, H. Dimock.

The Odd Fellows auxiliary, Winnewissa Lodge No. 68, Rebekahs, was instituted January 19, 1892.¹⁵

The next order in Odd Fellowship instituted was Gitche Manitou Encampment No. 45, which was officially organized March 27, 1893, by G. W. Bertram, grand patriarch, assisted by A. L. Bolton, grand scribe, and Winn Powers. The encampment began life with a membership of thirty, which was said to have been the largest number of charter members ever formed into a lodge of the order in the state.¹⁶

The last Odd Fellows order, Canton Hiawatha No. 20, Patriarchs Militant, was instituted February 25, 1910, with a membership of thirty-three.¹⁷

The Grand Army of the Republic has been represented by a post in Pipestone since 1884. Simon Mix Post No. 95¹⁸ was named in honor of Colonel Simon Mix, of the Third New York cavalry.

¹⁵The first officers and charter members of Winnewissa Lodge were Mrs. George D. Green, noble grand; Mrs. J. L. Grun, vice grand; Mrs. E. C. Smith, recording secretary; Mrs. S. W. Funk, financial secretary; Mrs. L. J. Reader, treasurer; Mrs. Gertie Humble, warden; J. H. Sanborn, inside guard; G. E. Bushnell and C. J. Crandall, noble grand supporters; E. C. Smith and S. W. Funk, vice grand supporters; P. P. Cady, J. L. Grun, A. H. Adams, L. J. Reader, E. M. Carr, George D. Green and C. C. Goodnow.

¹⁶The first officers and charter members were O. P. Nason, C. P.; P. P. Cady, S. W.; G. M. Winegardner, J. W.; L. H. Bugbee, R. S.; C. C. Goodnow, F. S.; L. J. Reader, T.; J. L. Grun, H. P.; H. H. Hanson, G. E. Bushnell, L. Baker, S. W. Funk, N. Kennison, C. J. Crandall, B. Toresdahl, F. I. Clement, W. T. Sanborn, J. E. Buell, George Redmon, O. H. Williams, F. B. Hobaugh, M. C. Barber, Max Menzel, G. A. Warner, W. E. Bushnell, A. E. Burgess, George D. Green, E. C. Smith, A. E. Woodman, J. W. Cook and J. J. Simenson.

¹⁷Officers at the time of organization and charter members were G. S. Redmon, captain; P. P. Cady, lieutenant; W. E. Wakefield, ensign; G. F. Argetsinger, clerk; F. M. Payne, accountant; A. E. Woodman, standard bearer; John Telford, sentinel; L. E. Krull, picket; J. W. Hunt, M. E. Boomer, G. R. Howes, R. P. Woodworth, B. Toresdahl, M. W. Missman, L. Hess, G. G. Stone, O. P. Nason, H. A. Gano, Frank Raymond, G. A. Warner, W. F. C. Krohn, P. H. Smith, S. W. Funk, C. W. Denhart, H. M. Parker, Carl Anlauf, William Boyce, D. M. Johnston, W. J. Dingler, George Piepgras, L. E. Hillier, A. E. Harris and B. A. Turnbull.

¹⁸The post was mustered in as Ed. S. McCook Post but the name was changed a couple of weeks later.

who was killed in action with his regiment at the battle of Petersburg. It was mustered in May 1, 1884, by R. R. Miller, of Worthington, department mustering officer. The post was organized with forty-five members.¹⁹

The first step toward the organization of a Woman's Relief Corps was taken November 2, 1885, when a number of ladies entitled to membership met in Opera hall. About a dozen were present and the preliminaries were arranged. Simon Mix Corps No. 12 was organized two days later and the first officers were installed by Mrs. Mary Starkweather and Mrs. Norton.²⁰

On three separate occasions camps of the Sons of Veterans have been organized in Pipestone. The first of these was Elmer E. Ellsworth Camp No. 2, which was mustered in with eighteen charter members February 12, 1885.²¹ The second was Robert Scarf Camp No. 92, which

¹⁹The first officers and members were as follows: John Pearson, commander; Riley French, senior vice commander; M. J. Easland, junior vice commander; W. J. Taylor, surgeon; W. D. Peck, chaplain; George D. Green, officer of the day; J. H. Enearl, officer of the guard; C. W. Fenlason, adjutant; W. B. Brown, quartermaster; L. D. Peck, sergeant major; B. S. Clark, quartermaster sergeant; C. H. Bennett, E. M. Carr, C. C. Devore, A. N. Ferris, J. C. Goodnow, John Gillon, W. W. Gray, C. C. Goodnow, H. T. Humphrey, W. H. Harrison, W. H. Hockabout, John Ibach, Ferdinand Kurz, Monroe Kenyon, Thomas Kinney, John H. LaRue, Thomas J. Lynch, H. G. Montville, Warren McCarter, L. H. Moore, A. J. Pearson, F. L. Pease, Franklin Plank, Simon Price, S. J. Perkins, H. C. Rigby, E. A. Rice, Robert Scarf, C. W. Sizer, D. E. Sweet, Peter Travits, W. F. Tibbetts, R. F. Taylor, Hamilton Wells, Cadwallader Williams.

²⁰The following composed the initial membership and first officers: Mesdames C. H. Bennett, president; F. L. Pease, senior vice president; C. W. Gilmore, junior vice president; N. M. Scarf, secretary; P. L. Walkup, treasurer; George D. Green, chaplain; C. E. Ervin, conductor; C. W. Sizer, guard; T. J. Lynch, W. Brown, H. B. Upman, C. C. Goodnow, W. J. Taylor, John Gillon, N. M. Brown, Samuel Price, H. L. Humphrey, Hamilton Wells, M. J. Easland.

²¹Among the members of this first camp were D. E. Sweet, Frank J. Brown, C. D. Fisher, H. W. George, A. F. Henderson, U. S. Clark, Charles E. Gillon, J. E. George, Frank Poorbaugh, Sheridan Gilman, E. J. Churchill, O. P. Nason and A. Rutter.

was mustered in November 17, 1891, by Lieutenant Charles A. Christy, of Winnebago City. The camp began life with thirteen members.²² The camp now maintaining an organization is Daniel E. Sweet Camp No. 14, named in honor of the first settler of Pipestone county, and mustered in September 1, 1908, by Junior Vice Commander Frank Tolman, of Paynesville, Minnesota. The charter membership list was left open until December 1, at which time there were thirty-five members.²³

The first fraternal insurance society organized in Pipestone was Pipestone Lodge No. 122, Ancient Order United Workmen, which began life July 29, 1890.²⁴ Five years later, on May 17, 1895, the auxiliary lodge, Fidelity Lodge No. 44, Degree of Honor, was instituted by Mrs. Mary Daley, grand chief of honor, of Minneapolis. The order began life with thirty-seven members.²⁵

The Modern Woodmen of America has had a flourishing camp in Pipestone since

1891. Catlin Camp No. 1543 was organized July 7, 1891, with twenty-two charter members.²⁶ Today the lodge has a membership of 234 in good standing, carrying insurance to the amount of \$436,-500. The auxiliary lodge, Ione Camp No. 677, Royal Neighbors of America, was instituted May 4, 1897, with twenty-two charter members.²⁷

Pipestone Lodge No. 388, Modern Brotherhood of America, was instituted November 3, 1898, with forty-three charter members, twelve of whom were ladies.²⁸

Pipestone Tent No. 142, Knights of the Maccabees, was instituted April 12, 1903.²⁹

Pipestone Assembly No. 307, Equitable Fraternal Union, was instituted February 11, 1904, with thirty charter members.³⁰

Pipestone Homestead No. 566, Brotherhood American Yeomen, was organized April 19, 1906, with a small membership.³¹

Pipestone Lodge No. 999, Mystic Work-

²²Among the charter members were W. S. Williams, Frank Raymond, G. E. Hart, F. E. Bushnell, Charles Sizer, M. H. Stone, William Raymond, Richard Hadwick and Fred C. Smith.

²³The first officers of Daniel E. Sweet Camp were as follows: O. P. Nason, commander; J. Hitchcox, senior vice commander; A. C. Wright, junior vice commander; Ralph G. Hart, E. E. Argetsinger and C. C. Gilmore, camp council; George F. Argetsinger, secretary; J. H. Brown, treasurer; appointive officers, C. S. Wright, F. D. Johnston, B. C. Adkins, Earl Hadwick, Luke Brown, Eugene Dickey and G. L. Jaycox.

²⁴The first officers of the Workmen lodge were M. W. Ware, P. M. W.; W. S. Williams, M.; W. S. McDonald, F.; Robert Scarf, O.; George Loomis, G.; G. H. Gurley, recorder; C. W. Gilmore, financier; I. L. Hart, receiver; Charles Gebhardt, L. W.; J. E. Bennett, O. W.

²⁵The first officers of Fidelity Lodge were Mary A. McDonald, P. C. of H.; Mary I. Gilson, C. of H.; Sarah C. Grun, L. of H.; Cora W. Hart, C. of C.; Amella D. Gurley, recorder; Rosabella O. George, financier; Nellie C. Payne, receiver; Jennie Denhart, sister usher; Millie E. Armstrong, inside watch; W. B. Denhart, outside watch; W. S. McDonald, Adv. C. of H.; Emma Loomis, R. maid of honor; Nettie Stair, L. maid of honor.

²⁶The charter members were Gustave Anderson, A. W. Anderson, Lars Backstrom, Rowland D. Carey, E. W. Davies, Hugh P. Dimock, J. C. Goodnow, Rollin S. Goodell, C. W. Gilmore, O. T. Gilson, George T. Lancaster, Charles F. Marsh, George M. McGillivray, Alexander McNaughton, F. L. Pease, G. S. Perry, Andrew F. Rublee, G. S. Redmon, T. F. Robinson, Edgar Shepherd, W. J. Taylor and Henry Wilson.

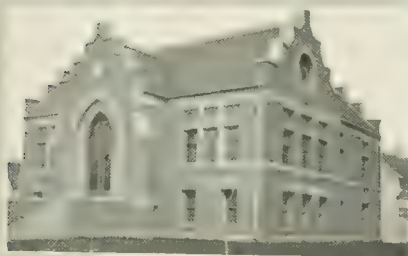
²⁷The first officers of Ione Camp were Libbie Cadwell, oracle; Lizzie Thiel, vice oracle; Frances Whitehead, recorder; Mrs. L. Hirschy, receiver; Mary F. Clayton, chancellor; Lulu Houston, marshal; Maggie Bliss, inner sentinel; Jennie Whitehead, outer sentinel; W. H. Taylor, physician; Minerva Shepherd and M. D. Cadwell, managers.

²⁸The first officers of the M. B. A. lodge were W. S. McDonald, president; A. H. Brown, vice president; Louis Hirschy, secretary; J. F. Sterner, treasurer; E. H. Argetsinger, conductor; Rev. L. D. King, chaplain; C. E. Grun, watchman; Edgar Shepherd, Jr., sentry; Mrs. W. S. McDonald, J. H. Nichols and W. R. Sommerville, managers.

²⁹With the following first officers: A. P. Powers, commander; G. G. Stone, past commander; J. J. Coats, lieutenant commander; P. H. Taylor, record keeper; W. H. Smith, finance keeper; R. B. Jose, chaplain; A. H. Brown, medical examiner; C. R. Watts, sergeant; J. E. Bliss, master at arms; F. L. Loomis, first master of guards; N. A. Powers, second master of guards; Julius Stuck, sentinel; William Tattersfield, picket.

³⁰The first officers of Pipestone Assembly were as follows: Charles Ewing, president; W. Mike-sell, vice president; H. J. Peterson, past president; C. F. Price, adviser; Harry Gano, warden; S. W. Funk, secretary; N. E. Mannerud, treasurer; Otto Oppen, sentry; C. C. Walkup, J. Hitchcox and M. W. Missman, trustees.

³¹The charter members were A. H. Brown, C. L. Miles, M. J. Becker, Anna Becker, Andy Dahlberg, Anna Dahlberg, Mary Lyons, Nellie Eppers, Emily Southall and Anna Hines.



PIPESTONE'S PUBLIC BUILDINGS

ers of the World, began its existence September 21, 1910, when a class of twenty-eight was organized.³²

In addition to the orders mentioned, there have been a number of lodges organized in Pipestone which flourished for a time and then went out of existence. Among these was Calumet Lodge No. 28, Independent Order Good Templars, which was chartered and organized February 18, 1885, and which had an existence of several years.³³ Another organization that was popular in Pipestone for many years was Hiawatha Lodge No. 121, Knights of Pythias, which was instituted March 22, 1893.³⁴ Owing to heavy losses in membership, by reason of death and removal, the charter was surrendered in December, 1906. Doon Castle of the Imperial Mystic Legion was organized in March, 1891, with fifty-two charter members, but later surrendered the charter.³⁵ Wasta Tribe of the Improved Order of Redmen was organized October 26, 1900.³⁶ Two years later the lodge was transferred to Woodstock. Another lodge that had a short life was Pipestone Aerie of the Fraternal

Order of Eagles, which was organized November 24, 1904.³⁷

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

One of the institutions in which the people of Pipestone take pride and on which they place great dependence is the fire department, one of the best organized and most capable fire fighting organizations in southwestern Minnesota. The Pipestone fire department has had an existence of nearly a quarter of a century and was organized as a direct result of the Calumet hotel fire of December, 1886.

In the early days the entire water supply of the village came from shallow wells, and prior to the fire which destroyed the largest building of the town there was absolutely no protection. Immediately after the fire the village council purchased two chemical engines and a hook and ladder truck, and on January 6, 1887, a fire department was organized, with F. A. Walker as chief.³⁸ The department was divided into three companies and the total membership was forty.³⁹

³²The following were the first officers: Mrs. B. A. Turnbull, prefect; Lewis Fangmeier, monitor; G. B. Johnston, secretary-banker; Mary R. Gilbertson, marshal; Dr. E. S. Perrigo, physician; Flora L. Smith, warder; A. W. Vivian, sentinel; Perley H. Smith, John Telford and R. E. Gilmore, supervisors.

³³The charter members of the Good Templars lodge were Charles Thayer, J. L. Pratt, Mrs. T. J. Lynch, Mrs. A. S. Dyer, Mrs. E. E. Nason, Mrs. C. C. Sampson, W. S. Hamlin, J. E. Miller, Orvil Nason, Ross A. Nason, R. W. E. Nason, Mrs. J. E. George, J. E. George, Ellene Lynch, Allene Lynch and C. E. Wills.

³⁴With the following named charter members: E. B. Ioomis, W. W. Robey, H. W. George, J. H. Buttleman, F. E. Pearson, E. W. Crosby, J. W. Cook, Len Ramsdell, Harry Chure, Max Menzel, C. W. Gilmore, W. J. Taylor, William McGillivray, A. C. Neville, Fred Perrigo, Robert Scarf, C. Lindsay, Leo Moore, Fred Reynolds, William Brown and M. W. Ware.

³⁵The first officers of Doon Castle were W. S. McDonald, Mrs. M. I. Gilson, Mrs. A. E. Woodman, F. M. Bunn, A. E. Woodman, John Wicklund, M. W. Missman, Frank Clayton, W. B. Sanford, Mrs. W. S. McDonald, Mrs. E. Shioley, Mrs. M. W. Missman, W. J. Taylor and William McGillivray.

³⁶The first officers of Wasta Tribe were W. H. Smith, C. Davis, Jens Sorenson, G. T. Lancaster, A. H. Brown, S. F. Montville, John Van Eaton, Norman Shannon and F. W. Norman.

³⁷The first officers of the Eagles were S. W. Funk, Louis Hirschy, C. W. Gilmore, George Thomas, John Wicklund, Gus Wohler, R. B. Lees, F. W. Pratt, Max Menzel, H. J. Petersen, Rube Gannon, Herman Krookeberg and J. S. Roe.

³⁸The chiefs of the Pipestone fire department since its organization have been F. A. Walker, W. B. Brown, Clarence Walkup, Charles Risley, Frank Hobaugh, Charles Tofflemire, Oliver Sanborn, A. D. Brown, F. E. Cogswell, C. E. Dougherty, Harry A. Gano and A. D. Brown.

³⁹The members of the pioneer fire department were as follows:

Engine No. 1—G. S. Redmon, foreman; A. C. Billon, assistant foreman; E. N. Bragdon, secretary and treasurer; A. B. Smith, W. Chesley, C. C. Walkup, William Rae, G. B. Kuist, O. P. Nason, D. N. Miller, L. D. Swartout, C. G. Strong.

Engine No. 2—J. H. Enearl, foreman; C. J. Crandall, assistant foreman; L. H. Bugbee, secretary; Clarence Walkup, treasurer; C. W. Sizer, A. E. Gates, George Lancaster, L. Backstroem, Walter Russell, Frank Hobaugh, L. J. Clayton, C. C. Hamlin.

Hook and Ladder No. 1 Ed. Reader, foreman; Frank Carnegie, assistant foreman; Gardner E. Hart, secretary; Peter J. Wiger, treasurer; Andy Pearson, H. Sanborn, W. Sanborn, C. D. Fisher, George Coombs, George Carnegie, H. Gordon, W. S. Wheeler, W. I. Bulen, C. Miller, F. M. Prill.

The matter of providing adequate protection from fire was not allowed to rest with the primitive measures adopted. It was soon decided to install a system of waterworks, largely because of the protection it would afford. Bonds for the purpose to the amount of \$20,000 were voted in November, 1887, and the waterworks were installed the next year. The system was in working order in August, 1888, and at that time a hose cart and hose were purchased. Early in September the department was reorganized and a hose company added.⁴⁰

PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Pipestone has one of the best public libraries in southwestern Minnesota—an institution which is the pride of the city. The building was erected with money donated by Andrew Carnegie, and the library is maintained by the city under direction of the city council. The home of the library is built of red stone from the Pipestone quarries, trimmed with jasper, and its dimensions are 46x51 feet.

For a few years prior to the building of the Carnegie library a public one was maintained by the city. The first steps toward securing an institution of the kind were taken in 1899, when the question of founding a city library was submitted to a vote at the annual village election. At that time 225 votes were cast in favor of the proposition and 49 against, but no action followed. Again at the election in the spring of 1900 the proposition carried by a vote of 431 to 38, and the village council at once took measures to establish the library. The library was opened September 1, 1900, in the city hall with only

200 books on the shelves. Within six months, however, the library had acquired 562 volumes and was well patronized.

The matter of securing a donation from Mr. Carnegie was taken up in the spring of 1901, but the philanthropist replied that he had so many applications from larger towns, where he considered libraries of so much more far-reaching benefit, that he was unable to take up the cases of the smaller towns at that time. Application was again made early in 1903, the matter being taken up by the Pipestone Commercial club. Within a short time came Mr. Carnegie's usual proposition: that he would donate \$10,000 for a library building, providing the city would furnish a site and pledge the expenditure of \$1000 annually for maintenance. The city council passed the required resolution May 2, 1903. The site was selected in August and was purchased for \$800, the money being raised by subscription. The plans for the building were drawn by Joseph Schwartz, of Sioux Falls, and the contract for the construction was let February 12, 1904, to George S. Redmon on a bid of \$8100. The building was completed during the following summer and was opened for inspection November 11, 1904. Mrs. O. T. Gilson is the present librarian.

THE BANKS.

The oldest banking institution of Pipestone county is the Pipestone State Bank, which during the greater part of its history was known as the Pipestone County Bank. It was founded as a private institution by C. C. Goodnow and J. E. Craig, and opened its doors in November, 1879.

⁴⁰The members of the several companies under the reorganization were as follows:

Engine Company—G. S. Redmon, A. C. Billon, James Maguire, A. Bates, J. L. Reader, S. W. Funk, Charles Tofflemire, Luke Brown, Frank Hobaugh, L. H. Bugbee, L. J. Clayton.
Hose Company—C. J. Crandall, C. F. Sherwin, George Kuist, O. P. Nason, E. C. Smith, G. M. Schauer, George Lancaster, G. T. Haugen, Char-

les Hamlin, Clarence Walkup, J. M. Weeks, B. Randall, Frank Raymond, Adolph Ewert, F. A. Walker.

Star Hook and Ladder Company—Gardner E. Hart, E. L. Reader, Levi D. Wait, A. F. Rublee, C. W. Miller, Samuel Markal, W. I. Bulen, William Sanborn, Herbert Sanborn, F. J. Wiger, John Dixon, H. Buell, George Walkup, G. A. Carnegie, Nic Newcomer.

One year later the firm of Goodnow & Craig was dissolved, and Mr. Craig, who had been the cashier, retired, being succeeded as cashier by Riley French. A. H. Merwin became associated with Mr. Goodnow in the management of the bank in 1882.

The Pipestone County Bank was organized as a state bank April 28, 1883, under a twenty-five year charter and with a capital stock of \$25,000. The officers and directors were as follows: T. A. Black, president;⁴¹ O. P. Miller, vice president; A. H. Merwin, cashier; William Larrabee, J. K. P. Thompson, Frank Larrabee, C. C. Goodnow. In July, 1884, the capital stock was increased to \$50,000. The institution was housed in a little one-story frame building in the early days, but later erected one of the finest stone blocks in the city. The bank at once became a popular institution and soon took rank among the leading financial institutions of southwestern Minnesota. During the memorable panic of 1893, when nearly all the banks of the country felt the effects of the financial storm, the Pipestone County Bank had a larger capital and surplus than any other bank in the old second congressional district.

Upon the expiration of the charter of the Pipestone County Bank, on April 28, 1908, the institution was reorganized under the name of the Pipestone State Bank, with a capital of \$50,000 and a surplus of \$15,000. The incorporators were E. W. Davies, F. L. Janes, F. E. Pearson, T. E. Nash, David Patten, Max Menzel and George E. Sellers, of Pipestone; O. P. Miller, of Rock Rapids, Iowa; Charles Larrabee, of Fort Dodge, Iowa. The present officers are E. W. Davies, president; F. L. Janes and F. E.

Pearson, vice presidents; T. E. Nash, cashier.

The second banking institution founded in Pipestone was the Bank of Southwestern Minnesota, which opened its doors July 21, 1885. It was a private institution and its proprietors were two Englishmen, Charles Mylius and W. G. Stoner. In order to comply with a new law, which prohibited carrying on a private banking business under a corporate name, on July 1, 1887, the bank's name was changed to Stoner & Mylius, Bankers. The firm was dissolved October 25, 1888, and thereafter for a few months the business was conducted under the name of Charles Mylius & Co. The early home of the bank was Commerce block, but in 1888 the bank took up its quarters in the Calumet hotel block. Ten years later a home of its own was built on Olive street.

The institution was reorganized as the First National Bank of Pipestone on March 1, 1889, with the following officers and directors: Charles Mylius, president; C. J. Cawley, vice president; H. E. Briggs, cashier; W. G. Martine, A. S. Dyer, H. E. French and R. W. Ashton. Mr. Mylius retired from the presidency in March, 1893, and was succeeded by C. J. Cawley. W. C. Briggs became president in 1898. The bank has a capital stock of \$50,000.

The Farmers and Merchants Bank was the third banking institution founded in the village. Its doors were opened December 15, 1897. The officers of the bank, all of whom were from Brooklyn, Iowa, were as follows: O. F. Dorrance, president; W. W. Reed, vice president; W. J. Smith, cashier. A few years later H. H. Reed became president; J. T. Scott, vice president; and W. J. Smith, cashier. The bank

⁴¹During the twenty-eight years this bank has been under the state banking laws it has had only two presidents: T. A. Black, who served from 1883 to 1890 and E. W. Davies, who has been president since that time. O. P. Miller was the vice president during the twenty-

five years of life under the old charter. There have been five cashiers during the entire history of the state bank, namely, A. H. Merwin, E. W. Davies, F. L. Janes, F. E. Pearson and T. E. Nash.

went out of business in March, 1905, being merged into the Security Bank.

The Security Bank was established as a private business enterprise in March, 1900, by R. W. Ashton and G. H. Gurley with a capital stock of \$25,000. It was conducted as a private bank until 1909, when it was incorporated. The directors are G. H. Gurley, A. D. Gurley and R. W. Ashton. The bank has quarters in the Calumet hotel building.

Another institution that has developed considerable proportions is the Sweet Township Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance company, which was organized in the spring of 1888, the first policy being issued June 13 of that year. There were twenty-five members at the time of founding, who carried only \$25,000 insurance. The first officers were Duncan Stuart, president; F. M. Payne, secretary; E. A. Rice, treasurer.

CHAPTER XXVI.

JASPER AND EDGERTON.

ALTHOUGH it is one of the younger towns of Pipestone county, Jasper has had a rapid and substantial growth and is the second largest municipality in the county. Its population in 1910 was 701. The town is very beautifully situated on the gently sloping side of one of the elevations so numerous in this part of the country. It is on the Great Northern railroad and is the terminus of a branch of the Rock Island road. It is also located on Split Rock river, a small but picturesque stream. Jasper is fifteen miles southwest of Pipestone and in the extreme southwestern corner of Pipestone county, a small part of the village being in Rock county.

Unlike most of the villages of southwestern Minnesota, Jasper does not depend solely upon the surrounding agricultural country for its support. Here are located the famous Jasper stone quarries, which produce excellent building and paving stone. Several quarries are located in and adjoining the city, which are operated the entire year and give employment to large forces of workmen. Nearly all the business blocks are built of native stone, giving the little city a prosperous and substantial appearance.

From the very earliest days the people

residing in southwestern Pipestone and northwestern Rock counties, being long distances from market, had anxiously awaited the coming of a railroad and the founding of a town, but while railroads had been built in all other parts of both Pipestone and Rock counties, none came to the rich territory which so badly needed improved shipping facilities and a trading point. While Jasper was not founded until 1888, events which tended to that result occurred some time before. So early as the spring of 1886 surveyors in the employ of the Willmar & Sioux Falls Railroad company, which at that time was more or less a myth, ran a line in the vicinity, but not until the next spring was there probability that a road would be built and a town founded. The first mention I find in the public prints of a probable town in the Jasper country was in the Rock County Herald of March 25, 1887, when a correspondent from Beaver Creek wrote: "The new railroad survey through the northern portion of the county is attracting considerable attention, and the prospects for a thriving town in that locality are very promising."

In the fall of 1887 the grade for the Willmar & Sioux Falls railroad through the southwestern part of Pipestone county was made, and then came rumors of the

founding of a town where later Jasper was built.¹ Early the next spring came the certainty that the new railroad would be built later in the year, and steps were taken to found the town in advance of the coming of the road. Several Pipestone capitalists purchased a large tract of land in the vicinity, including the future townsite and the stone deposits, and made arrangements to open a quarry and found a town, which was to be appropriately called Jasper.²

For the promotion of the several enterprises the Jasper Improvement company was incorporated with a capital stock of \$100,000 by the following named persons: J. M. Poorbaugh, who became the president; T. A. Black, secretary; E. W. Davies, treasurer; J. M. Spicer, E. A. Sherman and P. F. Poorbaugh.³ On April 19, 1888, Alfred S. Tee, the Pipestone county surveyor, surveyed the townsite on section 32, Eden township, and on May 1 the dedication was made by T. A. Black and J. M. Poorbaugh. The site was divided into twelve blocks, separated by First, Wall, Second, Fourth and

Sixth streets, running north and south, and by Spicer, Sherman, Burr and Railroad avenues, east and west.⁴

In the meantime other interests were at work to bring about the founding of the town on Rock county soil. On April 25 Surveyor Tee surveyed a forty acre tract on the farm of George Carnegie, on section 6, Rose Dell township, for Messrs. Carnegie & Vickerman, which was first known as Carnegie but later as West Jasper.⁵ The Rock County Herald of April 20, 1888, said of the rival sites:

Considerable excitement prevails in the northwest part of the county over the location of a proposed new station in that section on the line of the Willmar & Sioux Falls road. A townsite called Carnegie has been laid out on section 6, Rose Dell township, and another, christened Jasper, has been platted just over the county line on section 32, Eden. The respective interests of the two ambitious embryo towns are represented by rival forces and a lively contest is in progress. It is reported that there were about two hundred people on the grounds last Sunday [April 15.]

For a time there was more or less rivalry between the two towns which adjoined, but practically all the business

doing of anything necessary or requisite in carrying on such business. The principal place of business and the office of said corporation shall be located at Jasper, Pipestone county, Minnesota."

¹"The grading of the proposed Duluth [Willmar & Sioux Falls] road through Rose Dell township is nearly completed and it is reported that reasonable assurances have been received by parties in that section that a station will be located near the north line of Rose Dell township, two and one-half miles east of the Dakota line."—Rock County Herald, October 28, 1887.

²"The station question in Rose Dell is not settled yet, but there are big indications of it being on section 6."—Correspondence in Herald, December 9, 1887.

³"Poorbaugh Bros. made a contract last week with Mr. Brodie, of Dell Rapids, to put two hundred men right away in their quarries between here and Sioux Falls. The contract further stipulates, we understand, that not less than three hundred car loads of stone shall be shipped during the year. We learn also that a town will be started at once with general merchandise stores, a bank and a newspaper. This is to be a station on the Willmar & Sioux Falls road and with the stone interests mentioned will have a pretty good beginning. The name of the new town is to be Jasper."—Pipestone County Star, April 13, 1888.

⁴"The incorporation was not perfected until May 21, 1888. According to the incorporation papers: "The general business of said corporation shall be as follows: The quarrying of stone and other mineral substances, preparing for market and marketing the same, the buying, owning, improving, selling and dealing in lands, tenements, hereditaments and for the

⁴For several years there was a cloud on the title to the Jasper townsite. In 1889 H. Elofson brought an action against Norman F. Phillips and J. M. Poorbaugh before the government land office for the possession of the site. The decision of the Marshall land office was in favor of the latter, but the case was appealed and was not settled until April, 1894. Then Secretary of the Interior Hoke Smith rendered a final decision against the claimant, and the title was at last clear.

Additions to the Jasper townsite have been platted as follows:

Stilson's, by Jasper Improvement company and Simon F. Stilson, July 19, 1888.

Prospect, by Jasper Improvement company, May 4, 1889.

Sherman's, by Jasper Improvement company, November 20, 1889.

⁵Christian Aslesen bought an interest in the townsite a few weeks later, and it was he who placed the plat on record January 8, 1889. The original plat consisted of twenty-one blocks, divided by Rosedelle, Washington, Lincoln, Main and Prospect avenues, running north and south, and by First, Third, Fifth and Seventh streets, east and west. Rose Dell addition to Jasper, on the Rock county side, was platted by the Jasper Improvement company February 15, 1890.

houses were erected on the Pipestone county side—in Jasper proper.

There was no delay in founding the town after its platting. The Jasper Improvement company was composed of progressive men and they at once put into execution their plans for improving the townsite.⁶ During the month of May the first buildings were put under way, and on May 17 the first business house in Jasper was opened—a general merchandise store by Christianson & Berdahl.⁷ During June and July there was great activity, and by the last of July there were in operation the following business houses:⁸ General store by Christianson & Berdahl, hotel by P. F. Poorbaugh, drug store by Robert Scarf, hardware stores by Smith Bros. and Carnegie Bros., grocery store by L. H. Gilbertson, the Jasper Journal by S. S. King, meat market by Frank Apfeld, harness shop by I. L. Bratager and the postoffice in charge of S. S. King.⁹ Other enterprises in process of starting were general merchandise stores by Herberg Bros., Thomas Ganfield and Lommen & Rask, livery barn by P. F. Poorbaugh, roller mills, two blacksmith shops and carpenter shops. All this had been accomplished in two months, for on June 1 there was not a completed building on the townsite. Most of the lumber and stocks of goods were hauled from Pipestone, and during the whole summer the roads were lined with teams hauling goods to the new

town. The first birth in the village occurred August 29, 1888. The child thus honored was given the name Leon Jasper Bratager.

Jasper continued to grow rapidly, and when the Willmar & Sioux Falls (now the Great Northern) railroad reached the town on October 5, there were twenty-five business and residence buildings. The first passenger coach was run to Jasper October 21, and on November 1 regular train service was established. A depot was erected in November. For several weeks before the coming of the road building operations were at a standstill, but when material began to come by rail there was a resumption, and building operations were continued until late in the season. At the close of the year 1888 there were many lines of business in operation, and the seven-months-old village had a population of about 200 people. The building improvements during the first seven months of its existence amounted to \$42,500 and were as follows:

Farmin & Miller, Jasper hotel and furniture	\$6000
Northwestern Elevator Co., elevator and coal sheds.....	5000
Railroad Company, depot and section house	3200
P. F. Poorbaugh, livery barn.....	2200
Lommen & Rask, store building.....	1400
Jasper Improvement Co., four cottages	1300
George T. Cockburn, store building..	1000
I. L. Bratager, harness shop.....	1000
E. M. Bentley, store building.....	1000
Jasper Journal office.....	1000

and when once in full operation will be a source of large profit to the owners."

⁶The Pipestone County Star of April 27, 1888, said: "On Friday morning last, in company with T. A. Black, ye editor drove down to the townsite of Jasper, sixteen miles southwest of Pipestone, on the Willmar & Sioux Falls road. Surveyor Tee with a corps of men was busy when we got there laying out lots and streets. Lumber will soon be on the ground for a building in which will be placed a newspaper outfit, and the first number, we are told, of the Jasper Record will be published in a few weeks. A fine hotel will be started at once and several store buildings. The site is a very pretty one for a town, and having the favor of the railroad company, will undoubtedly grow considerable this year. The place is provided with the best of spring water in abundant quantities. The stone quarries, upon which the prosperity of the town is principally based, are certainly all that have been claimed for them,

"Twelve years ago yesterday Christianson & Berdahl opened their stock of general merchandise in Jasper. At that time there was not a business building erected in the village, and those gentlemen commenced business in Mr. Christianson's dwelling house. The firm remained in this location while a store building was being erected."—Jasper Journal, May 18, 1900.

⁸As reported by the Jasper Journal, July 27, 1888.

⁹Mr. King was postmaster from July, 1888, to November, 1893, and was succeeded by W. H. Storts, who served until November, 1897. Mr. King was again commissioned at that time and has since held the office.

P. F. Poorbaugh, store building.....	800	Jasper Improvement Co., P. F. Poorbaugh, resident agent.
J. H. Taylor & Co., lumber office and dry shed.....	800	General Merchandise—Christianson & Berdahl, Davies & Coombe, Lommen & Rask.
J. M. Poorbaugh, residence.....	800	Hardware—A. P. Smith, E. M. Bentley, Carnegie Bros.
S. F. Stilson, residence.....	800	Drugs—C. E. Robinson, E. P. LeSuer.
L. H. Gilbertson, store building and barn.....	700	Groceries—L. H. Gilbertson, Thomas Ganfield.
School District, school house and furniture.....	700	Furniture—A. P. Smith, C. C. Drew.
Smith & Poorbaugh, basement for stone building.....	700	Bakery and Confectionery—A. C. Richardson.
E. A. Sherman, basement for stone building.....	700	Restaurant—L. H. Lovestone.
J. M. Poorbaugh, basement for stone building.....	700	Hotel—Farmin & Miller.
Carnegie Bros., store building.....	700	Lumber Dealers—J. H. Taylor & Co., G. Arvesen.
Lovestone & Jameson, restaurant and bakery.....	650	Wood and Coal Dealers—J. H. Taylor & Co., Martin Graves.
Frank Apfeld, meat market and ice house.....	650	Elevator—Northwestern Elevator Co., A. O. Dinsmoor, agent.
Christianson & Berdahl, store building.....	600	Railroad—Willmar & Sioux Falls, W. R. Leet, agent.
J. G. O'Neil, store building.....	600	Livery Barn—P. F. Poorbaugh.
John Carnegie, residence and store..	600	Meat Markets—Frank Apfeld, Midbon & Hermanson Bros.
T. M. Torrensen, residence.....	550	Harness Shop—I. L. Bratager.
Midbon & Hermanson Bros., meat market.....	500	Flour and Feed—J. J. Vickerman.
Jasper Improvement Co., residence..	500	Real Estate—P. F. Poorbaugh.
A. P. Smith, store building.....	500	Billiard Hall—L. M. Buseby.
Robert Scarf, store building.....	450	Saloon—Gilbert Gillman.
Thomas Ganfield, store building.....	450	Contractors and Builders—W. M. Cross, Corbett & Sullivan.
Thomas Ganfield, residence.....	450	Creamery—Jasper Produce Co., J. H. Taylor, secretary.
A. J. Berdahl, residence and barn....	450	Dray Line—W. H. Lake.
A. C. Richardson, bakery.....	400	Blacksmith Shops—Alexander Tait, A. C. McLean.
M. Moriarty, store building.....	400	Jewelry Store—John Carnegie, Sr.
Sidewalks.....	400	Loans and Insurance—I. L. Bratager.
M. Moriarty, store building.....	350	Shoemaker—A. M. Hanson.
William Ganfield, residence.....	350	
A. J. Lewis, residence.....	350	
George Curtis, residence.....	300	
James Stilson, residence.....	300	
Black & Davies, basement for bank..	300	
C. O. Christianson, residence.....	250	
Corbett & Sullivan, carpenter shop..	200	
H. A. Leinbach, store building.....	200	
C. C. Drew, store building.....	200	
J. M. Poorbaugh, basement for residence.....	200	
Larson Bros., feed mill.....	100	
P. F. Poorbaugh, blacksmith shop...	100	
Martin Graves, coal house.....	90	
A. C. McLean, blacksmith shop.....	50	
P. J. Corbett, barn.....	50	
Total	\$42,540	

A business directory, published in March, 1889, when the town was less than a year old, listed the following:

¹⁰The signers were P. F. Poorbaugh, D. G. Miller, L. G. Coombe, A. J. Berdahl, P. J. Corbett, E. M. Bentley, G. Arvesen, Gilbert Gillman, J. H. Taylor, William Bates, John G. Burke, S. S. King, A. P. Smith, Humphrey Henderson, E. P. LeSuer, W. R. Leet, W. H. Lake, A. C. Richardson, C. O. Christianson, L. D. Farmin, S. F. Stilson, Gust Johnson, Henry Bell, L. M.

The growth continued during the spring of 1889, and when a census was taken early in March there were found to be 235 people living in the territory which it was proposed to incorporate as the village of Jasper; of this number 188 were in Pipestone county and 44 in Rock county. The petition asking for incorporation was signed by nearly every voter in the village.¹⁰ The territory which it was asked to have incorporated included both Jasper and West Jasper, 1280 acres being in Pipestone county and 800 in Rock. The

Busbey, L. H. Gilbertson, P. F. Larson, Owen Kinsella, Vic Williston, W. H. Phelps, Alexander Tait, John McQuig, T. M. Torrensen, James Williamson, A. M. Hanson, A. F. Jameson, Morton Boswell, J. A. Vickerman, George Curtis, John L. Larson, J. J. Vickerman and Lawrence Connelley.



SCENES AT JASPER

The Central Picture is of Jasper When One Year Old

board of county commissioners of Pipestone county took favorable action and named May 9, 1889, as the date for holding a special election to vote on the question, appointing P. F. Poorbaugh, D. G. Miller and A. P. Smith as inspectors of the election. Fifty-five votes were polled, every one being in favor of incorporation. The first election for the selection of village officers was held May 24 and ninety-five votes were polled. Municipal government was begun May 25, when the village council met for the first time.¹¹ Following are the names of the citizens who have been elected to office in Jasper's corporate history:¹²

1889—President, P. F. Poorbaugh; trustees, P. J. Corbett, W. R. Leet, A. P. Smith; recorder, P. F. Sherman; treasurer, I. Turner; justices, C. J. Robinson, E. M. Bentley; constable, J. J. Vickerman.

1890—President, E. M. Bentley; trustees, James Williamson, A. Rae, I. L. Bratager; recorder, S. S. King; treasurer, L. W. Coombe; justices, John H. Davis, F. L. Wilson; constable, A. C. Richardson.

1891—President, George P. Lommen; trustees, James Williamson, A. P. Smith, L. M. Vaughan; recorder, J. H. Taylor; treasurer, L. W. Coombe; justice, W. J. Walter; constable, W. H. Lake.

1892—President, P. F. Sherman; trustees, L. M. Vaughan, George Rae, Robert Brown; recorder, J. H. Taylor; treasurer, L. W. Coombe; justice, L. P. LeSuer; constable, John Seeman.

1893—President, A. P. Smith; trustees, James Williamson, H. D. Jenckes, Robert McGowan; recorder, A. A. Watts; treasurer, L. W. Coombe; justices, Henry Fauth, A. H. Nelson; constables, W. H. Lake, Ben Lund.

1894—President, Ransom Walter; trustees, L. H. Gilbertson, A. F. Oaks, George Rae; recorder, E. E. Humphrey; treasurer, J. H. Taylor; street commissioner, E. P. LeSuer; justice, S. F. Stilson; constables, William Ganfield, E. E. Williams.

1895—President, Ransom Walter; trustees, A. F. Oaks, L. H. Gilbertson, George Rae; recorder, E. E. Humphrey; treasurer, J. H. Taylor; street commissioner, J. A. Stilson; justice, W. P. King; constables, A. C. Richardson, William Ganfield.

1896—President, A. F. Oaks; trustees, W. H. Raymond, Frank Apfeld, W. H. Lake; recorder, E. E. Humphrey; treasurer, J. H. Taylor; street commissioner, Nels Gunderson; justice, W. E. Austin; constable, Lars Blom.

1897—President, A. F. Oaks; trustees, C. E. Crowell, John Treloar, L. H. Gilbertson; recorder, E. E. Humphrey; treasurer, J. H. Taylor; street commissioner, W. J. Walter; justice, Henry Fauth; constable, W. H. Beto.

1898—President, Ransom Walter; trustees, W. H. Storts, Andrew Rae, P. A. Teslow; recorder, J. A. Struble, treasurer, J. H. Taylor; street commissioner, Alexander Tait; justice, W. E. Austin; constable, J. E. Rolph.

1899—President, A. H. Adams; trustees, P. A. Teslow, Andrew Rae, James McGrath; recorder, J. A. Struble; treasurer, L. W. Coombe; street commissioner, Henry Fauth; assessor, Frank Montgomery; justice, L. M. Vaughan; constables, T. H. Barkey, O. C. Gunwall.

1900—President, Ransom Walter; trustees, Andrew Rae, H. L. Lange, Edward Burg; recorder, E. E. Humphrey; treasurer, George S. Smiley; street commissioner, W. J. Walter; assessor, L. M. Vaughan; justices, S. E. Elefson, W. E. Austin; constable, J. A. Stilson.

1901—President, S. S. King; trustees, Andrew Rae, Edward Burg, Ben Lund; recorder, E. E. Humphrey; treasurer, George S. Smiley; street commissioner, W. J. Walter; assessor, L. M. Vaughan; constable, T. H. Barkey.

1902—President, Ransom Walter; trustees, Ben Lund, A. F. Oaks, M. D. Martin; recorder, E. E. Humphrey; treasurer, George S. Smiley; street commissioner, E. P. LeSuer; assessor, L. M. Vaughan; justices, L. Huestis, W. E. Austin; constables, J. A. Stilson, Ben Holvig.

1903—President, Ransom Walter; trustees, Ben Lund, Henry Holvig, W. H. Lake; recorder, G. Friedrich; treasurer, S. S. King; street commissioner, Frank Apfeld; assessor, L. M. Vaughan; justice, J. J. Ramsey; constable, Henry Hanson.

¹¹The separation from Eden township for voting purposes was not accomplished until July 14, 1896. Prior to that time the electors of Jasper were frequently required to drive into the country several miles to exercise their franchise.

¹²Prior to 1895 the license question was not an issue at the annual elections, license having been granted each year. Since that time the question of license or no license has been decided each year under the local option law, with results as follows:

1895—For, 83; against, 52.
1896—For, 73; against, 58.

1897—For, 53; against, 30.

1898—For, 55; against, 43.

1899—Not an issue; license granted.

1900—For, 64; against, 37.

1901—For, 74; against, 60.

1902—For, 82; against, 57.

1903—For, 70; against, 46.

1904—For, 69; against, 51.

1905—For, 65; against, 53.

1906—Not an issue.

1907—For, 60; against, 58.

1908—For, 58; against, 49.

1909—For, 59; against, 63.

1910—For, 62; against, 76.

1911—For, 70; against, 78.

1904—President, W. H. Lake; trustees, John Rudd, Henry Fauth, Henry Holvig; recorder, S. S. King; treasurer, George S. Smiley; street commissioner, Frank Apfeld; assessor, W. W. Stearns; justices, F. A. Hunt, William Rae; constable, Matt Stephenson.

1905—President, W. H. Lake; trustees, John Rudd, J. P. Peterson, Edward Burg; recorder, S. S. King; treasurer, George S. Smiley; street commissioner, Frank Apfeld; assessor, W. W. Stearns; justice, W. E. Austin; constables, Matt Stephenson, J. A. Stilson.

1906—President, John Rudd; trustees, Edward Burg, J. P. Peterson, J. P. Greigg; recorder, S. S. King; treasurer, George S. Smiley; street commissioner, Frank Apfeld; assessor, W. W. Stearns; justices, F. A. Hunt, E. P. LeSuer; constable, J. A. Stilson.

1907—President, John Rudd; trustees, G. W. Vickerman, John Rowe, M. D. Martin; recorder, S. S. King; treasurer, George S. Smiley; assessor, W. W. Stearns; justice, Henry Fauth; constable, J. A. Stilson.

1908—President, John Rudd; trustees, John Rowe, M. D. Martin, G. W. Vickerman; recorder, S. S. King; treasurer, George S. Smiley; assessor, W. W. Stearns; constable, J. A. Stilson.

1909—President, John Rudd; trustees, Alexander Mitchell, M. D. Martin, Andrew Rae; recorder, S. S. King; treasurer, A. H. Adams; assessor, M. J. Harrington; constable, F. P. Lee.

1910—President, Edward Burg; trustees, E. J. Aslesen, G. Friedrich, T. T. Haugen; recorder, G. M. Peterson; treasurer, A. H. Adams; justice, F. P. Jones; constable, Ben Lund.

1911—President, G. W. Vickerman; trustees, C. Bauman, M. D. Martin, Andrew Rae; recorder, George S. Smiley; treasurer, A. H. Adams; assessor, F. E. Bushnell; justices, H. H. Onan, T. H. Hoadley; constables, Bert Hostetter, George Straw.

The value of building improvements in 1889 was over \$55,000. Those who erected buildings that year and the cost of each were as follows:

Smith & Poorbaugh, stone store building	\$8000
J. M. Poorbaugh, stone store building	5000
E. A. Sherman, stone store building..	5000
Jasper creamery.....	2500
E. P. LeSuer, store building and barn	2200
P. F. Poorbaugh, two residences and barn	1650
A. D. Hitchcock, three residences...	1600
P. Paulson, boarding house and barn.	1500
Thomas McDermott, boarding house.	1500
Ted Donovan, store building	1500
H. Augustine, store building.....	1500

Chris Aslesen, lumber shed and three residences	1500
F. L. Wilson, store building.....	1400
William Williamson, residence.....	1400
T. A. Black, two residences.....	1100
A. E. Carnegie, residence and office..	1000
James Williamson, residence.....	1000
Farmin & Miller, building and improvements	1000
L. W. Coombe, residence and barn..	900
P. Brende, residence.....	850
J. E. Rolph, residence.....	800
G. Arvesen, lumber shed, etc.....	800
John Williams, residence.....	750
P. J. Corbett, residence.....	700
P. Paulson, harness shop.....	700
F. G. Sullivan, residence.....	625
A. L. Barnes, residence.....	600
Albert Rowe, residence.....	600
William J. Walter, residence and barn	550
Andrew Olson, residence	500
Alexander Tait, residence.....	500
A. C. Richardson, store building...	500
L. H. Gilbertson, residence.....	500
Village of Jasper, lockup.....	450
Harry Williams, residence.....	450
R. E. Kull, residence.....	400
W. F. Tabbert, residence.....	300
Robert McGowan, residence.....	300
Frank Apfeld, ice house, etc.....	275
Carrie Holmquist, residence.....	250
H. H. Midbon, ice house, etc.	250
T. M. Torresen, barn, etc.....	250
Lars Blom, residence.....	225
Robert Scarf, addition.....	200
P. J. Corbett, improvements.....	200
Lommen & Rask, improvements...	200
J. H. Taylor, lime house and improvements	150
Mike Anderson, residence.....	150
W. H. Lake, improvements.....	150
H. Augustine, barber shop.....	150
I. L. Bratager, barn.....	100
P. F. Sherman, improvements.....	100
Dell Rapids Granite Co., blacksmith shop	50
Samuel Holmes, improvements.....	50
A. J. Berdahl, improvements.....	50
George T. Cockburn, improvements..	25

Total\$55,325

Since the early days of its history Jasper has steadily progressed. The population had increased to 372 when the federal census of 1890 was taken. In 1892 it received the second line of railroad, the Rock Island, which some time before had been extended from Trosky to the pink quarries, three miles from the village. The extension to Jasper was brought about by voting \$2300 bonds as a bonus, which was

done by a vote of 46 to 2 in May, 1892. The track was laid to the town September 13. The hard times period of the nineties brought a temporary depression in Jasper. The quarries were not operated for a few years, and the discontinuance of the payroll tended to stop progress in many lines. In the late nineties, however, the old time activity was resumed and Jasper again took up the forward march. In 1900 the town had a population of 559,¹³ and in 1905 the population had increased to 619. The census of 1910 gave Jasper a population of 704; its increase in the preceding five years was greater than that of any other Pipestone county town.

During its entire history Jasper has had only two fires of any consequence. The first of these occurred early in the morning of June 16, 1905, when the mercantile establishment of Holvig Bros. was damaged to the amount of \$10,000. The flames were confined to the one building. The other conflagration occurred in February, 1907, when the flouring mill was destroyed, entailing a loss of \$12,000.

THE SCHOOLS.

Jasper was only a few months old when arrangements were made for a public school. The Jasper Improvement company donated a site, and on October 27, 1888, the following district officers were chosen: Frank Apfeld, director; S. S. King, clerk; P. F. Poorbaugh, treasurer. At the same time the contract was let to W. M. Cross for the erection of the first school house, a 24x36 feet frame building. This building was completed within a few weeks, and school was opened December 17, in charge of Miss Mary Hartney. During the first term the enrollment reached over thirty pupils. The pioneer building answered the purpose of a school house

until 1893, when it was replaced by a handsome native stone building, erected at a cost of about \$8000. Bonds in the sum of \$12,000 were voted in February, 1892, but it was more than a year later when the temple of learning was constructed. It was built entirely of gray jasper, donated by the Sioux Valley Stone company.

THE CHURCHES.

Four church societies maintain organizations in Jasper, namely, Presbyterian, Methodist, German Evangelical and Norwegian Lutheran. The first church organized in the village was the Presbyterian,¹⁴ which was formed in 1889. The first trustees, selected in June of that year, were P. F. Poorbaugh, president; J. H. Taylor, W. R. Leet, P. F. Sherman, D. G. Miller, James Williamson and Andrew Rae. A house of worship was erected soon after, but was not dedicated until November 27, 1892. The dedication ceremonies were conducted by Rev. R. N. Adams, of Minneapolis, assisted by Revs. H. N. Bell, J. T. Henderson, H. B. Sutherland and G. E. VonHagen.

The German Evangelical Lutheran Trinity church was organized in the early nineties. A church building was erected in 1894 and dedicated October 28 by Rev. H. C. Brinkman, Rev. G. H. Buscher and Rev. Ph. Studt. The first pastor of the church was Rev. H. B. Kohlmeier.

Fowler Methodist Episcopal church was also organized in the early nineties. In the fall of 1895 work was commenced on a handsome stone church edifice, which was completed the following year. The building was dedicated June 2, 1901, by Bishop Joyce, assisted by Presiding Elder J. M. Bull and Revs. Ellery, Leazer, Sanders and others. The membership of

¹³A special census taken in February, 1902, under the direction of the commercial club, showed a population of 661.

¹⁴The first religious services in Jasper were held June 24, 1888, by a Congregational minister, Rev. Holp.

the Methodist society was not large, and the large and costly church building proved too expensive for it to retain. In 1904 a deal was consummated whereby the building was traded for a smaller stone building, which had been erected by the Norwegian Lutheran society.

THE LODGES.

Among the first secret societies organized in Jasper was St. Elmo Lodge No. 204, A. F. & A. M., for which the charter was granted January 14, 1892. The lodge was instituted February 4, of the same year, by Deputy Grand Master C. W. Gilmore with the following first officers and charter members: Herbert D. Jenckes, W. M.; James H. Taylor, S. W.; Andrew Rae, J. W.; Israel Turner, treasurer; Ole P. Rask, secretary; William E. Austin, S. D.; David G. Miller, J. D.; Edward H. Gates, senior steward; William Williamson, junior steward; George H. Carr, tyler.

A chapter of the Order Eastern Star was instituted April 27, 1893, with thirteen charter members. It maintained an organization several years and then surrendered the charter. A reorganization was brought about March 27, 1909, when Taylor Chapter No. 54 was instituted with the following charter members: Addie Parker, W. M.; Andrew Rae, W. P.; Hat-tie Williams, A. M.; Barbara Rae, Marguerite Apfeld, Carrie King, S. S. King, Emma Vickerman, Jessie Vickerman, George Apfeld, Louise M. Gerber, Jessie Dinkel and May S. Martin.

Jasper Lodge No. 183, Knights of Pythias, was instituted June 21, 1906, with the following first officers and charter members: B. F. Scott, C. C.; George S. Smiley, V. C.; J. P. Gregg, prelate; S. T. Marshall, M. of W.; T. R. Dunn, K. of R. S.; E. J. Aslesen, M. of F.; J. H. Taylor, M. of E.; J. E. Kirchner, M. at

A.; W. J. Drew, I. G.; E. H. Farmer, O. G.; J. M. Kilpatrick, G. J. Treloar, W. W. Jones, William C. Aslesen, W. O. Larson, F. P. Jones, Alexander Rae, M. J. Harrington, C. A. Cook, D. R. Gregg, G. M. Peterson, Frank E. Older, John H. Bong.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Jasper's fire department was organized in March, 1892, with T. L. Donovan as chief. The only fire fighting apparatus maintained by the pioneer company was a hook and ladder outfit, which was purchased by the village council. From this small beginning the Jasper fire department has developed into its present efficient condition.

THE BANKS.

Two banking institutions are maintained in Jasper, and the banking history dates back to the spring of 1889. At that time Israel Turner, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, located in the new town and founded a private bank, which he conducted until July, 1892. His business was taken over by the State Bank of Jasper, which was incorporated with a capital stock of \$25,000. The first officers and stockholders were E. W. Davies, president; O. P. Miller, vice president; J. H. Taylor, cashier; T. A. Black, P. F. Sherman, H. E. Corbett, F. L. Janes and J. K. P. Thompson. In December, 1902, the institution was incorporated as the First National Bank of Jasper with a capital stock of \$25,000 and with the officers that had served the state bank.

The Farmers State Bank of Jasper began business with a capital stock of \$10,000 October 2, 1909. The present officers and directors are as follows: C. L. Engbretson, president; M. C. Nelson, vice president; T. M. Alexander, cashier; G. W. Vickerman, A. G. Kartrude, W. L. Kartrude, H. G. Holter and John Rudd.



JASPER'S CHURCHES AND SCHOOL

EDGERTON.

Excepting Pipestone, the oldest town in Pipestone county is Edgerton, fourteen miles southeast of the county seat, on the Southern Minnesota division of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad. With a population of 381 people, as returned by the 1910 census, Edgerton is the third town in the county in point of size. It has always been a thriving place, and the visitor is at once attracted by the many evidences of prosperity presented. The center of a productive farming region, Edgerton is unexcelled by any of the smaller towns of southwestern Minnesota as a business point. Nature has most kindly favored it. Situated on Chanarambie creek, near its junction with Rock river, it is here the valleys of these two streams unite to form a broad plain with gradual slopes to the east, south and west, insuring a condition much desired by any town—an almost perfect system of natural drainage.

It was during the early years of settlement in Pipestone county that Edgerton made its bid for recognition. When the Southern Minnesota railroad pushed through the county late in 1879 it found perched on the prairie in Osborne township a little hamlet awaiting its coming. Reversing the usual order of proceedings, the promoters of the village did not wait for the coming of the iron horse to found the town; they founded the town and let the railroad come when it was ready.

On section 28, Osborne township, where the village was later built, three early day settlers secured title to land: A. A. Dodge; to the northwest quarter; M. M. Gunsolus, to the southwest quarter; A. D. Kings-

bury, to the east half of the section. Mr. Kingsbury, upon whose land the original plat was located, settled there with his family in April, 1877, and on August 1, 1879, received title from the government. Osborne township experienced a rapid settlement during 1878 and 1879, and the need of a market became a consideration of prime importance. When it was known that the Southern Minnesota railroad would build through the township and the line had been definitely located, the founding of a town was conceived, and in the summer of 1879 the initial steps were taken. Although he had not yet received title to the land, Mr. Kingsbury set aside a tract of land on the northeast quarter of section 28 for townsite purposes, and before the land was surveyed a number of business houses had been put under way.

The first building was put up in July, 1879, by James Hedrick.¹⁵ It was a small frame structure and was rented to Crandall Bros., of Worthington, who established therein the first business enterprise—a general merchandise store.¹⁶ Thomas Butterfield opened a blacksmith shop in July, and the same month Major D. E. Runals, who resided on a nearby farm, began the erection of a 24x30 feet business building, which was used to house a number of early enterprises.¹⁷ In August Azom Forbes, of Worthington, opened a lumber yard for the John Paul lumber company.

Having secured a patent to the land, Mr. Kingsbury had the site surveyed early in September, the surveying being done on the seventh of the month by Albert L. Arey, assisted by Major D. E. Runals and Thomas Butterfield. The dedication was made December 13, the acknowledg-

¹⁵The transfer of the south half of lot 9, block 2, to James Hedrick by A. D. Kingsbury and wife for \$20 on September 24, 1879, was the first property transfer of Edgerton real estate.

¹⁶Crandall Bros. were the proprietors of the pioneer store only a short time, selling in Sep-

tember to J. B. Barlow, who engaged exclusively in the hardware business.

¹⁷In this building Mr. Runals conducted a real estate office and served as deputy postmaster. In it was also started the Edgerton News, the town's first newspaper, by Gardner E. Hart.

ment being made before Mr. Runals, who was a notary public. Twelve blocks were included in the original plat, the streets running east and west being named Elizabeth, Center and Maple, and those intersecting, Main and Mechanic.¹⁸

Another event of early September was the establishment of the postoffice, which was named Osborne, after the township. A. D. Kingsbury was the postmaster, but the office was in charge of Mr. Runals, who was the deputy, and was maintained in that gentleman's building.¹⁹

There was great activity in the village during the closing months of the year 1879. In September T. E. Fitzgerald, of Hersey (now Brewster), put up a tent on the townsite and engaged in the general merchandise business. Mrs. Patrick Finnegan, whose husband supervised the railroad grading in the vicinity, conducted a boarding house.²⁰ The track-layers reached the new town in October and on the twentieth of that month the first passenger train passed through. A box car was placed on a sliding for a depot and W. E. Lockerby was installed as the first agent.

¹⁸Three additions have been platted as follows: Lockwood's, by William Lockwood, July 18, 1887.

Howard's First, by C. S. Howard, July 25, 1900.

Auditor's Plat No. 1, by G. H. Gurley, county auditor, August 22, 1900.

¹⁹The railroad company gave the name Edgerton to the new station in honor of General Edgerton, under whom A. D. Kingsbury and George Dodd, two of the earliest settlers of the vicinity, served during the civil war. With the station and postoffice bearing different names much confusion resulted. Early in 1880 application was made to have the name of the postoffice changed to correspond with that of the station and the request was granted.

The history of the Edgerton postoffice dates back to the spring of 1878. During that season the demand for a more satisfactory mail service prompted the request by a number of Osborne township's residents for the establishment of a postoffice to be known as Osborne and with A. D. Kingsbury as postmaster, the office to be on the Luverne-Currie mail route. The petition was drawn by Major D. E. Runals April 16, 1878, and was signed by the following named twenty-seven interested parties: Major D. E. Runals, C. E. Hathaway, H. O. Gates, M. M. Gunsolus, P. C. Bradshaw, John Casserly, H. A. Hoy, Charles Gray, C. H. Kingsbury, S. M. Webster, James Delaney, Edwin W. Day, J. R. Swain, Edwin McDonald, R. Clark, West Webster, Edwin Allen, S. H. Turner, A. A. Dodge, George D. Dodd, J. J. Hartigan, W. Dodd, Robert Lowman, V. Moore, Pat Hartigan, P. W.

With the coming of the railroad Edgerton town property became a commodity of value, and the townsite proprietor did a flourishing business. S. McLain erected a small hotel from lumber hauled from Luverne; William Lockwood became a resident of the town, erected a building, and established a general merchandise and drug store, which was managed by P. P. Barron; the C. L. Colman company established the second lumber yard, which was managed by G. A. Follett.

Prosperity smiled most graciously on the young Osborne township town. Activity and expansion characterized the year 1880, a number of improvements being well under way in early spring.²¹ J. B. Barlow, the hardware merchant, erected a store building. George W. Knee, a traveling man, put up another building, in which was housed the general merchandise business of C. W. Ask. P. P. Barron succeeded to the business founded by William Lockwood, and that gentleman became the hotel proprietor, also establishing the town's first meat market. T. E. Fitzgerald moved his store from the

Saunders and S. L. Bailey. A year passed before the requested action was taken. The authorities at Washington authorized the establishment of the Osborne postoffice May 7, 1879, but not until in the late summer, after the town of Edgerton had been founded, was the office put in operation.

A. D. Kingsbury officiated as postmaster of Osborne (Edgerton, after January, 1880) until May, 1881. Succeeding postmasters have been as follows: J. B. Barlow, May, 1881, to March, 1886; C. L. Crippen, March, 1886, to March, 1888; James L. Miller, March, 1888, to October, 1897; Edwin W. Day, October, 1897, to May, 1905; C. A. Calking, May, 1905, to the present time.

Two rural routes are in operation out of Edgerton: No. 1, established February 1, 1904; No. 2, established May 1, 1904.

²⁰To Mr. and Mrs. Finnegan was born the first child in Edgerton, a daughter named Kittie Finnegan. A little later in 1879 the second child and the first boy, Frank Kingsbury, was born.

²¹"Although scarcely five months have elapsed since the railroad was built and the town came into existence, Edgerton boasts of several good residences and a number of store buildings that would be a credit to any village. Several lots on Main street have recently been purchased by parties who expect soon to erect good sized business houses, and the prospect is that within a few months the town will have more than doubled in size."—Rock County Herald (Luverne), April 23, 1880.

tented shelter originally occupied into another newly built structure. W. H. Morrison bought a half interest in the town-site and aided in advancing the town's interests. A. D. Kingsbury opened a livery stable and C. B. Rolph engaged in the restaurant business. Hodges & Hyde erected a warehouse and engaged in the grain business, being represented by Charles Bonner. Cargill Bros. also erected a warehouse and installed J. E. Stott as local manager. During the fall the railroad company erected a suitable station building, and the box car depot was abandoned. In December, 1880, a harness shop was opened by Scheble & Sage. The federal census of 1880, taken during the summer, gave the youthful town a population of eighty-six people.

Before the passing of another year Edgerton exhibited all the evidences of healthy development. Its growth was remarked by a visitor in July, 1881, who had returned after a year's absence. He wrote: "A visit to this thriving and prosperous village, after the lapse of a year, reveals as a result of its growth and development a change so marked as to make the infant of one year ago almost unrecognizable in the robust two-year-old of the present time. In fact, since April, 1880, Edgerton has more than doubled in size." Among the additions to the business life in 1881 was a banking institution, founded in June by Drew & Smith, of Luverne, with Frank Smith as manager.

A natural increase of a firm and substantial order was experienced by the lusty Pipestone county village following the boom with which its existence was ushered in. The result of the first few years of development may be obtained from a pe-

rusal of the following business directory, which was published in the first issue of the Edgerton Enterprise, April 28, 1883:

Bankers—Drew & Smith.
General Merchandise—C. W. Ask, T. E. Fitzgerald, Lockwood & Burdette.
Hardware and Implements—J. B. Barlow.
Hotel—Edgerton Hotel, Ashbaugh & Gullick, proprietors.
Restaurant—Nat Lester.
Drug Store—Frank Smith.
Furniture—Daniel Fritz, Hiram Hall.
Harness Shop—S. Harden.
Meat Market—Lockwood & Burdette.
Newspaper—A. R. Burkdoll.
Flour and Feed—S. Harden.
Billiard Hall—John Cameron.
Livery Barn—W. H. Cameron.
Lumber—C. L. Colman Lumber Co., G. A. Follett, manager; John Paul Lumber Co., C. I. Ring, manager.
Elevators—Cargill Bros., J. E. Stott, manager; Hodges & Hyde, Thomas Byrnes, manager.
Blacksmith Shops—H. A. Hoy, W. H. Dickey.
Wagon Shop—Chet. Kingsbury.
Carpenter—Hiram Hall.
Dray Line—C. H. Roll.
Real Estate—Drew & Smith, Lon Kingsbury.
Physician—Dr. H. Wilson.
Depot Agent—R. A. Smith.

So early as the fall of 1883 the project for the formation of Edgerton into an incorporated municipality was given serious consideration, but the incorporation did not eventuate until four years later. A census taken in August, 1887, disclosed the fact that there were 231 persons living within the square mile of territory which it was proposed to incorporate. A petition, dated August 12 and bearing the signatures of thirty-one residents,²² was presented to the board of county commissioners, asking that body to take the necessary action to bring about incorporation. This was done, and at Lockwood's hall on October 14, 1887, the election to decide the matter was held.²³ "For incorporation" carried by a vote of 32 to 11.

²²The signers of the petition were H. A. Hoy, C. L. Crippen, Sidney Kingsbury, T. M. Gullick, F. Mettick, W. T. Pratt, J. L. Ryan, J. Calkins, Iver I. Peterson, O. H. Rolfe, F. F. Burdette, Barney Lynch, J. P. Ashbaugh, George Gullick, Matthew Lynch, Charles W. Ask, Jens Johnson, George H. Richardson, J. L. Miller, C. W.

Scott, W. Scott, R. S. Pickett, H. O. Gates, West, Webster, R. Mollard, J. B. Barlow, Jr., A. R. Burkdoll, T. B. Francis, F. A. Meacham, N. Lester and N. P. Brayton.

²³J. R. Barlow, A. R. Burkdoll and F. F. Burdette were the inspectors of this first election.

On October 22 the first election to select village officers was held. The result of this first election and of the subsequent elections was as follows:²⁴

1887—President, J. B. Barlow; trustees, C. W. Ask, T. M. Gullick, W. T. Pratt; recorder, C. I. Ring; treasurer, M. M. Gunsolus;²⁵ justices, J. L. Ryan, W. G. Weisback; constables, H. A. Hoy, F. H. Baldwin.

1888—President, J. B. Barlow; trustees, T. M. Gullick, J. L. Ryan, William Krielow; recorder, C. I. Ring; treasurer, I. I. Peterson; justice, J. L. Ryan; constable, Dell Scott.

1889—President, T. B. Francis; trustees, F. F. Burdette, F. A. Meacham, J. P. Ashbaugh; recorder, J. L. Miller; treasurer, William Krielow; constable, D. D. Sargent.

1890—President, C. S. Howard; trustees, W. T. Scott, C. H. Kingsbury, F. H. Baldwin; recorder, J. L. Miller; treasurer, F. A. Meacham; justice, W. Webster; constable, J. Willis.

1892²⁶—President, C. S. Howard; trustees, W. G. Weisback, W. T. Scott, F. H. Baldwin; recorder, J. L. Miller; treasurer, T. M. Gullick; justice, J. S. McManus; constable, C. B. Kingsbury.

1893—President, C. G. Brady; trustees, J. B. Barlow, Ben Gullick, W. T. Scott; recorder, B. H. Horton; treasurer, T. M. Gullick; justice, J. S. McManus; constable, Frank McCaughey.

1894—President, M. M. Gunsolus; trustees, F. H. Baldwin, W. T. Scott, Ben Gullick; recorder, C. I. Ring; treasurer, T. M. Gullick; justice, C. I. Ring; constable, Frank McCaughey.

1895—President, D. J. Forbes; trustees, F. A. Meacham, C. S. Howard, W. T. Scott; recorder, C. I. Ring; treasurer, I. I. Peterson; justices, C. I. Ring, W. C. Lee; constables, W. T. Steward, Frank McCaughey.

1896—President, J. W. Stone; trustees, M. M. Gunsolus, W. T. Scott, W. N. Bemis; recorder, C. I. Ring; treasurer, T. J. Butterfield; assessor, Ren Kingsbury; justice, T. H. Baldwin; constable, H. A. Lester.

1897—President, M. M. Gunsolus; trustees, W. T. Scott, F. A. Meacham, F. F.

Burdette; recorder, T. T. Brigham; treasurer, T. J. Butterfield;²⁷ assessor, Ren Kingsbury; justices, E. E. Brake, T. T. Brigham; constable, Elmer Scott.

1898—President, W. N. Bemis; trustees, T. B. Francis, F. H. Baldwin, F. F. Burdette; recorder, T. T. Brigham; treasurer, W. T. Scott; assessor, Ren Kingsbury; justice, C. I. Ring; constable, Frank McCaughey.

1899—President, F. H. Baldwin; trustees, F. F. Burdette, C. S. Howard, F. A. Meacham; recorder, T. T. Brigham; treasurer, W. T. Scott; assessor, Ren Kingsbury; justice, L. W. Ham; constable, Ralph Baldwin.

1900—President, F. H. Baldwin; trustees, F. F. Burdette, A. Pilling, C. S. Howard; recorder, C. I. Ring; treasurer, W. T. Scott; justices, C. I. Ring, W. J. Patterson; constable, W. T. Steward.

1901—President, F. H. Baldwin; trustees, F. C. Brake, C. S. Howard, C. A. Calking; recorder, C. I. Ring; treasurer, W. T. Scott; assessor, Ren Kingsbury; constable, W. T. Steward.

1902—President, C. S. Howard; trustees, F. C. Brake, C. A. Calking, F. F. Burdette; recorder, C. I. Ring; treasurer, W. T. Scott; assessor, Ren Kingsbury; justices, C. I. Ring, W. J. Patterson; constable, B. O. Bevans.

1903—President, C. S. Howard; trustees, F. F. Burdette, A. Pilling, Ed. Yocom; recorder, John Grundler; treasurer, W. T. Scott; assessor, Ren Kingsbury; constable, Henry Bevans.

1904—President, C. S. Howard; trustees, A. Pilling, C. A. Calking, F. E. Douty; recorder, John Grundler; treasurer, W. T. Scott; assessor, George Gullick; justices, C. I. Ring, W. J. Patterson; constable, Frank McCaughey.

1905—President, C. S. Howard; trustees, F. E. Douty, A. Pilling, F. F. Burdette; recorder, John Grundler; treasurer, W. F. Scott; assessor, J. L. Baldwin; constable, N. P. Anderson.

1906—President, F. A. Meacham; trustees, F. H. Baldwin, F. J. Dutcher, F. E. Douty; recorder, John Grundler; treasurer, H. B. Francis; assessor, J. L. Baldwin; jus-

²⁴The question of granting saloon license in Edgerton has been submitted to a vote under the local option law at every annual election with the exception of two or three years in its early history. Nine out of twenty-two times the vote has favored license, but for the greater part of its history Edgerton has been a "dry" town. The results of the license vote have been as follows:

1888—License by 1 majority.
1891—Against license by 15 majority.
1892—For, 40; against, 41.
1893—Against license by 24 majority.
1894—License by 5 majority.
1895—For, 47; against, 36.
1896—For, 49; against, 35.
1897—For, 51; against, 29.
1898—For, 49; against, 44.
1899—For, 34; against, 54.
1900—Against license by 35 majority.

1901—Against license by 16 majority.

1902—Against license by 22 majority.

1903—For, 59; against, 44.

1904—For, 46; against, 44.

1905—License by 12 majority.

1906—For, 38; against, 53.

1907—For, 32; against, 62.

1908—For, 40; against, 52.

1909—For, 28; against, 50.

1910—For, 36; against, 51.

1911—For, 26; against, 48.

²⁵Did not qualify. F. A. Meacham served.

²⁶The result of the 1891 election is not obtainable.

²⁷Was succeeded by William Lockwood in September, 1897.

tices, W. J. Patterson, C. I. Ring; constable, H. L. Bevans.

1907—President, F. H. Baldwin; trustees, C. S. Howard, A. Okerman, C. R. Meacham; recorder, John Grundler; treasurer, J. P. Ashbaugh; assessor, J. L. Baldwin; constable, N. P. Anderson.

1908—President, C. S. Howard; trustees, G. T. Haugen, A. Okerman, Ren Kingsbury; recorder, John Grundler; treasurer, J. P. Ashbaugh; assessor, J. L. Baldwin; justices, C. R. Meacham, C. I. Ring; constable, E. DeWolf.

1909—President, F. E. Douty; trustees, A. Okerman, A. Pilling, G. T. Haugen; recorder, John Grundler; treasurer, J. P. Ashbaugh; assessor, J. L. Baldwin; justice, F. C. Brake; constable, N. P. Anderson.

1910—President, F. E. Douty; trustees, A. Okerman, A. Pilling, F. A. Meacham; recorder, John Grundler; treasurer, J. P. Ashbaugh; justices, W. J. Patterson, C. F. Blackmore; constable, E. DeWolf.

1911—President, F. E. Douty; trustees, A. Pilling, A. Okerman, N. P. Anderson; recorder, John Grundler; treasurer, J. P. Ashbaugh; assessor, F. N. Saum; constable, Henry Bevans.

After two years' experience with village government dissatisfaction became manifest among some of Edgerton's population. This led, in August, 1889, to a movement to annul the village government and return to township government.²⁸ The agitators were unsuccessful in their designs. The union between Osborne township and Edgerton village was not, however, wholly severed until April 25, 1895, when by a vote of 36 to 2 the village voted to be set off from the township for all voting and assessment purposes.

Edgerton has never witnessed a period of retrogression. The population of the village in 1890 was 178. The closing years of the century were especially notable in the way of material progress and achievement. The Edgerton Dairy association started a creamery June 1, 1895,²⁹ and the same year a grist mill was erected by D. J. Forbes.

The sum of \$20,000 was expended for building improvements in 1897, including a dozen residences, a bank block, post-office building and elevator. More than double that sum was paid out during the next two years. Several handsome business blocks were erected in 1899, one of them a 50x100 feet brick structure by F. A. and A. J. Meacham. The federal census of 1900 gave Edgerton a population of 450, a gain of 150 per cent in the decade.

The most destructive conflagration in Pipestone county's history occurred in Edgerton September 22, 1901, when one block of buildings on Main street was entirely destroyed. The losses were estimated at \$60,000 or more. The fire originated about six o'clock in the evening in Howard & Kooiman's store and was attributed to the gasoline apparatus used in lighting the store. While gas was being generated preparatory to lighting the lamps the gasoline tank became enveloped in flames, and in an instant the flames had spread to all parts of the building, running along the pipes from the generating tank. The store building was early doomed and a strong northeast wind carried the flames to adjoining structures. The situation was rendered most appalling by the absence of facilities for fighting the destroying element. Threshing crews rushed their water tanks to the scene, bucket brigades were formed, and a heroic fight was made with wet blankets and other crude fire fighting apparatus, but the block in which the flames originated was doomed.

For three hours the flames raged unabated, during which time the following buildings were destroyed: Howard &

²⁸"There is a movement on foot to annul our village charter by petition. A petition will shortly be presented to our citizens for that purpose on the grounds that we are not benefited by incorporation but pay higher taxes than we would if not incorporated; our village is no cleaner and our walks no better than before."—Edgerton Enterprise, August 15, 1889.

²⁹With the following first officers and trustees: H. O. Gates, president, Joseph Wade, vice president; Major D. E. Runals, secretary; J. P. Ashbaugh, treasurer; John Strecker, R. J. Butts and C. E. Douty, trustees. The plant later passed into the hands of private parties and is still in operation.

Kooiman's store, Edgerton hotel, Mrs. E. Norman's millinery store, Mrs. J. L. Miller's building, Scott Bros.' harness shop, William Anderson's building, B. F. Scott's barber shop, the Edgerton hotel livery barn and several warehouses. Some of the losses were estimated as follows: Howard & Kooiman, \$35,000; T. M. Gullick, \$4000; Mrs. E. Norman, \$700; Mrs. J. L. Miller, \$1200; C. H. Branum, \$800; Frank Stewart, \$200; W. T. Scott, \$700; William Anderson, \$700; Frank Scott, \$1000; Mrs. Vaughan, \$300. There was practically no insurance on any of the property destroyed, as the premiums demanded by the fire insurance companies, owing to the lack of fire protection, were at a prohibitive rate.

Edgerton profited from the experience of the fateful September day. The un-wisdom of further postponement in providing a system of waterworks and fire protection was made evident. On January 14, 1902, the electors authorized the issuance of bonds to the value of \$6000 for installing a system of water works.³⁰ The contract for putting in the system was let early in the summer of 1902.

The fire was only a temporary blow to the people of Edgerton. Within a short time the burnt district was partially rebuilt, on a more substantial basis. As was the case with many of the villages of southwestern Minnesota, Edgerton lost population in the five years from 1900 to 1905, the state census in the last named year giving a population of 380. Since that time the town has held its own in the matter of population, the census of 1910 giving a population of 381.

THE SCHOOL.

So early as 1877, before there was thought of a town where Edgerton is now,

a short term of school was held in the sod shanty on the claim of E. W. Day and was conducted by Mrs. Ann Day. There were very few residents in the vicinity at the time and the enrollment in the pioneer school was small. School district No. 2, embracing the whole of Osborne township, was created by the board of county commissioners March 31, 1879, and the school, conducted on the farm of A. A. Dodge, at the northeast corner of the northwest quarter of section 28, was presided over by West Webster. Six pupils were enrolled. Soon after the founding of Edgerton this school building, 14 x 20 feet, was moved to the new townsite and served as the village school house three years. West Webster was succeeded as teacher in district No. 2 by Ellen Forbes (Mrs. Thomas J. Butterfield), and she by Sarah J. Chapman (Mrs. Major D. E. Runals), who was the first to conduct the school in its present location. During the winter of 1880-81 the Edgerton school was the only one in the county which maintained regular sessions. For fuel Miss Chapman used soft and hard coal, wood, oats, screenings, lumber and railroad ties. For kindling "twisters" were used.

The present two-story frame school house was erected in the summer of 1882. It was built on a bond issue of \$3500 and J. B. Barlow, William Lockwood and M. M. Gunsolus were the committee under whose supervision the building was erected. In 1898 the Edgerton school was enlarged from two to four departments and became a graded school. In July, 1901, the district was reorganized under the independent district plan. Ten grades are at present maintained and there is an enrollment of about 150 pupils.

³⁰The vote was 67 in favor to 8 against bonds. Soon after the election it was found an error had been made in the wording of the proposition, and in order to escape possible legal

opposition a second election was held May 13 to consider the same question, when the bond issue was authorized by a vote of 32 to 6.



SCENES AT EDGERTON

THE CHURCHES.

The oldest church organization in Edgerton is the Congregational, which was formed before the town was a year old. The organization meeting was held March 20, 1880, and was presided over by Rev. C. W. Matthews, of the Congregational Home Mission society. The following named eight persons formed the initial membership: E. W. Day, J. R. Swain, L. N. Converse, Mrs. Ellen Swain, Mrs. Alice Burdette, George Day, John Calking, Mrs. Mary E. Calking. At a meeting the following day E. W. Day and L. N. Converse were chosen to serve as the first deacons.³¹

For many years the church was without a regular pastor, being supplied by ministers from other charges. Rev. E. Carter located in Edgerton September 1, 1889, as the first resident pastor and served the charge about seven years. Succeeding pastors have been P. H. Fisk, J. L. Martin, A. S. Willoughby, R. L. Roberts and James Mahaffy. The society was incorporated August 11, 1889. The house of worship was erected in 1890 and was dedicated July 19, 1891, by Rev. J. H. Morley, state superintendent of the Congregational Home Mission society.

For many years a Methodist church society has maintained an organization in Edgerton. It was organized in the early days of the town's history, and in the fall of 1882 a small house of worship was erected, which was dedicated May 6, 1883, by Presiding Elder J. V. Liscombe. This was the first church edifice erected in Edgerton and was paid for with money raised by subscription. For several years the building was used as a union church, but later the Methodists secured entire control and erected a parsonage.

The Hollanders have two religious organizations in Edgerton, the Christian Reformed and the First Dutch Reformed. The Christian Reformed is the older and was organized as a result of a series of meetings conducted during the summer of 1902 by Rev. Schut, of Pella, Iowa. A little later a church, comprising six or eight families, was organized. A church home was erected late in the year 1902 at a cost of \$2800. It was dedicated February 8, 1903, the exercises being in charge of Rev. Stewart, of Orange City, Iowa. The society also owns a parsonage, bought in the fall of 1906 for \$1500. The first regular pastor was Rev. J. M. Byleveld, who took up his duties in Edgerton in 1906. He was succeeded in 1909 by Rev. J. F. Schultz, the present pastor. About thirty-five families are now represented in the membership.

The First Dutch Reformed church is of later organization. A house of worship, which cost \$2500, was dedicated June 26, 1907, by Rev. Schurmans, of Newkirk, Iowa. In August, 1909, a manse, valued at \$2500, was completed. The church was supplied by visiting ministers until November, 1908, when the present pastor, Rev. H. Van der Ploeg, located in the field. The membership consists of about thirty-five families, most of whom reside in the country adjacent to Edgerton.

For a number of years the German Lutherans have maintained a church organization in Edgerton. The house of worship, 30x40 feet in size, was dedicated September 13, 1903. Rev. H. AmEnde, of Jasper, has supplied the congregation since the church was organized.

The Norwegian Lutherans also maintain a church organization. Services are

³¹Regular services were held in the school house during the memorable long, cold winter of 1889-91 under the ministrations of Rev. Matthews. The only available fuel for many Sabbaths was oats, furnished by Charles Bon-

ner, one of the grain men. He donated a sack of the grain each Sunday; when the oats had been consumed the services came to an end, regardless of any program arranged by the pastor.

held every three weeks, conducted by Rev. Otto Olson, of Pipestone. The society has no church building and services are held in the German Lutheran building.

THE LODGES.

Edgerton is the home of a number of fraternal organizations. The oldest order in point of continuous existence is U. S. Grant Post No. 80, Grand Army of the Republic. The post was mustered in March 20, 1884, with twenty-six members.³²

U. S. Grant Corps No. 13, W. R. C., was organized March 8, 1889, with nineteen charter members.³³ The order has a present membership of twenty-seven. This noble and patriotic organization has erected a fine granite monument to the unknown dead in Osborne cemetery, furnished a room in the women's building at the Minnesota soldiers' home, and aided in other patriotic work.

Lost Timber Camp No. 1547, Modern Woodmen of America, was granted a charter August 4, 1891.³⁴ The lodge at present has about 100 members. In 1900 the order erected a building valued at

\$3000. The lower floor is used as a public hall, while the second floor contains the lodge rooms.

One of the village's active fraternal organizations is Edgerton Lodge No. 98, Knights of Pythias, which was organized in February, 1892, and received its charter September 27 of the same year.³⁵

Chanarambie Camp No. 439, Royal Neighbors of America, was instituted July 6, 1896, with forty-four charter members.³⁶

Edgerton Lodge No. 235, A. F. & A. M., was organized under special dispensation May 17, 1900, and a charter was granted by the grand lodge January 24, 1901.³⁷

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Within two months after Edgerton's disastrous fire of September, 1901, the citizens took steps that would prepare them to combat the flames in the future. The first fire department was organized November 25, 1901, with sixteen volunteers, from which were elected the following officers: N. P. Anderson, chief; F. A. Meacham, assistant chief; George Gil-

³²The first officers of U. S. Grant Post were as follows: George D. Dodd, commander; M. D. E. Runals, senior vice commander; S. A. Peckett, junior vice commander; Henry Wilson, surgeon; R. J. Butts, chaplain; W. R. Terrell, officer of the day; M. M. Gunsolus, quartermaster; Joseph Smith, officer of the guard; Henry A. Hoy, adjutant; A. A. Dodge, sergeant major; S. S. Carpenter, quartermaster sergeant.

³³The charter members were Sarah A. Butts, Alice C. Burdett, Mary M. Gunsolus, Emma P. Bullis, Helen D. Sargent, Adria E. Brown, Rose E. Humphrey, Rose F. Littlefield, Margaret Littlefield, Laura Littlefield, Ruth S. Ware, Irene J. Rolph, Minnie A. Pemberton, Eva J. Thomas, Martha R. Baldwin, Luella G. Littlefield, Ida J. Himebaugh, Sarah J. Runals and Susan S. Bevans. Of the nineteen charter members fifteen have moved away and one has died. The three remaining in the local order are Martha R. Baldwin, Minnie A. Stone and Sarah J. Runals.

³⁴The first officers of Lost Timber Camp were N. R. Brayton, V. C.; O. E. Buss, W. A.; F. A. Meacham, banker; J. B. Barlow, clerk; J. P. Ashbaugh, escort; H. R. Lamb, watchman; A. M. Butts, sentry; T. B. Francis, physician; William Lockwood, E. H. Bartness and F. H. Baldwin, managers.

³⁵The first officers and charter members of the Knights of Pythias lodge were as follows: Jerome S. McManis, P. C.; Charles G. Brady,

C. C.; Bert A. Horton, V. A.; Armenius Davis, P.; Charles B. Mather, K. R. S.; W. N. Bemis, M. F.; B. O. Bevans, M. E.; George H. Stewart, M. K.; Ben Gullick, I. G.; John F. Feddersen, O. G.; Walter Holbrook, John B. Johnson, William A. McClellan, Charles E. Douty, Nelson H. Cook, Jacob A. Dounenworth, Charles H. Brannum.

³⁶The charter members of the Royal Neighbors lodge were William Lockwood, Ida M. Lockwood, Ellen Delaney, Maggie Rowe, E. Stella Perrigo, Ella A. Hart, Mamie Scott, Roseltha Scott, Mrs. H. E. Stone, Rose Mulroy, Mary Nelson, C. J. Delaney, Edward Hart, Samuel Rowe, Peter Nelson, D. E. Harmon, Mrs. A. M. Butts, B. E. Scott, Mrs. Eliza Straight, Myrtle Straight, Nellie Inbody, Sarah DeWolf, Ida Telford, Fred McVenes, Sadie McVenes, Georgia Kingsley, Maggie Lester, Mary E. Calkins, Hattie Snow, Lizzie Delaney, Ellen Bemis, John Calkins, Emily Kemp, Lena Pemberton, Martha Baldwin, Helen Kingsley, Mrs. M. A. Telford, Mrs. M. Wade, Mrs. S. Wade, Eugene DeWolf, C. H. Hayden, R. J. Butts, John Telford and Rhoda Hayden.

³⁷The first officers of the Masonic order were as follows: A. Pilling, W. M.; F. E. Douty, S. W.; Henry TerHaar, J. W.; C. G. Brady, secretary; William Lockwood, treasurer; Robert Hardy, S. D.; James McGlashen, J. D.; R. E. Thomas, S. S.; F. M. Ames, J. S.; C. E. Douty, T.

bertson, secretary; F. E. Douty, treasurer. The initial attempt at maintaining a protective brigade was not wholly successful. The department was reorganized on a more substantial basis February 3, 1908. At that time N. P. Anderson, the present head officer, was chosen chief and J. L. Baldwin, secretary and treasurer.

THE BANK.

The State Bank of Edgerton is the outgrowth of the Bank of Edgerton, a private institution established in 1891 with the following officers: H. J. Thode, presi-

dent; B. Ross, vice president; C. G. Brady, cashier. No change was made in the management until May, 1901, when an entire new staff of officers was chosen. C. S. Howard became president; Ed. Yocom, vice president; and F. E. Douty, cashier. On May 10, 1908, the bank was reorganized under the state banking laws as the State Bank of Edgerton, with a paid-up capital of \$25,000. The incorporators were C. S. Howard, Ed. Yocom, F. E. Douty, B. Ross and C. G. Brady. The officers elected in 1901 continue to serve.

CHAPTER XXVII.

HOLLAND AND RUTHTON.

HOLLAND is a bustling little municipality of nearly three hundred inhabitants located on the Great Northern railroad some nine miles northeast of Pipestone. The platted portion of the village is on the northeast quarter of section 12, Grange township, and the northwest quarter of section 7, Rock township. Holland is located in the midst of a thickly settled agricultural community, made up for the most part of thrifty Germans and Hollanders, and has developed into a prosperous trade center. The lines of business represented in the village are sufficiently diversified to satisfy all demands of the territory from which it draws patronage.

The year from which Holland dates its existence is 1888. Its birth was almost identical with that of Ruthton and the same agency was responsible for the founding of both towns, which came into existence simultaneous with the building of the Willmar & Sioux Falls railroad. Town building is always associated with railroad construction; it is a work that

proceeds hand in hand. A railroad building through a country invites the settling of lands adjacent, and in the scheme of development the planting of convenient markets and trading posts becomes a necessity. It was in the operation of this theory that Holland, like so many other villages that dot the western prairies, was founded. The new railroad, which is now designated the Great Northern, was built through Pipestone county in 1888, and along its line in Pipestone county were located a number of towns. In the north half of the county were two, Holland and Ruthton, which were promoted by Messrs. Moore & Sherman, they having connections with the new road.

The northwest quarter of section 12, Grange township, was the property of Robert M. Doughty until March, 1888, when it was transferred to Moore & Sherman. Immediately that firm commenced the work of placing a new town on the map at that point. In April the site had been selected and the town-to-be christened Holland.¹ On May 15 the survey was

¹It was first proposed to name the town Clara City, in honor of Mrs. Janus Huibregtse, a member of the first family that located on the site. To this Mrs. Huibregtse would not agree, but she did approve the name Holland, in honor of her native land. The Pipestone County Star of April 27, 1888, told of the selection of the site: "L. H. Moore, who has the laying out of two new towns in the north part of the

county, on the Willmar & Sioux Falls line, has selected one site on section 12, Grange township, and the town will be called Holland. The name is very appropriate, there being a large colony of Hollanders in that vicinity. Depot, elevators and a store building or two will, we are told, be built there this season, and, of course, it will be a 'smart town'—some time in the future."

made by Alfred S. Tee, and on June 4 the dedication was made. The original town-site consisted of thirteen blocks.²

The railroad was not completed until early in the fall, but several months before that time operations were begun toward the founding of Holland. The first town lot was sold in July to Janus Huibregtse, a recent arrival from Wisconsin, and in September that gentleman opened a general merchandise store and became the pioneer business man. In addition to the building he erected,³ two other frame structures were put up before the railroad was completed to the new town: one by William Whittig, a carpenter, which was not immediately occupied; the other by Henry Bruins, in which that gentleman established an implement business. When the railroad reached the new town, early in the fall, the company erected a little tool house, which for a number of years answered the purpose of a depot, and the Northwestern Elevator company put up a grain warehouse and installed L. C. Hoisveen as local manager. So far as I am able to ascertain, no other improvements were made in Holland in the year of its founding.

The Holland postoffice was established in February, 1889. It was located in the village store and Janus Huibregtse was the postmaster.⁴ Dr. J. S. McCabe erected a small building in January, opened a drug store and engaged in the practice of medicine. A little later Richard Artman opened a harness shop in the Whittig building. In 1890 there were several changes and a few additions to the business enterprises of the little town. In May Dr. McCabe discontinued business

and the building he vacated was temporarily occupied by J. Giebink with a stock of general merchandise. That gentleman completed a store building in the fall. Mr. Huibregtse closed out his stock of merchandise and converted his building into a boarding house. The implement firm of VanBeek and Bruins (succeeded later in the year by Larson & Bruins) erected a new building. In September the village's second grain warehouse was opened by the Inter-State Grain company, and the following month a lumber yard was established by Symens & Giebink.

The growth of Holland during the first decade of its history was slow, and from 1890 until 1897 there was practically no advancement. During this time it continued to be a trading point of considerable benefit to the farmers of the surrounding country; it was a railroad station and had a postoffice, two grain buying firms and a few stores and shops. It had not much on which to base its claim for recognition. But in the late nineties, in the period of general prosperity and large immigration to Pipestone county, Holland became established on a firm footing and commenced to give evidence of a future development into one of the county's important municipalities. The rapid settlement of the adjacent farming country in Grange, Rock, Aetna and Fountain Prairie townships brought the dawn of a new era in the history of the village. Among the business men of Holland in the spring of 1898 were Edwin Giles, Fred Bussey and John Mahoney, who were engaged in the general merchandise business; J. H. Bruins, a hardware and implement dealer; Richard Artman, who

²One addition has been platted: South, by Leon H. Moore and John Metcalf, on April 13, 1901.

³Mr. Huibregtse's building now forms a part of the Doughty hotel building.

⁴The Holland postoffice has been in charge of four postmasters since its establishment. J. Giebink succeeded Mr. Huibregtse in 1891 and served a four-year term. John Mahoney then received the commission and served until January, 1900, when Edwin Giles, the present incumbent, took office. The one rural route from Holland was established January, 1, 1906.



SCENES AT HOLLAND

conducted a harness shop; C. W. Searight, manager of the Holland Lumber company; Henry Kavanaugh, buyer for the Northwestern Elevator company; Sam Garrett, barber; John Toutges, who had a blacksmith shop; Anton Heck and William Whittig, who were carpenters and contractors; E. J. Retzloff, the station agent.

So great had been the increase in population and so confident were the people that there would be no abatement in the development of their town that steps were taken in the spring of 1898 to bring about the incorporation of the village. There was some opposition to this move but it was soon dispelled. Thirty-six electors signed a petition addressed to the board of county commissioners, requesting the necessary authority to proceed with the formalities to bring about the change. The board made favorable answer April 5, 1898, when John Mahoney, Edwin Giles and J. H. Bruins were appointed inspectors to conduct an election on May 10 to vote on the question.

Twenty ballots were cast and all except one were in favor of incorporation. On May 24 the first village officers were chosen, thirty-four voters participating in the election.⁵ The first village council was organized May 26. Those who have been elected to office in Holland are as follows:⁶

1898—President, Edwin Giles; trustees, T. H. Kavanaugh, M. T. Mahoney, Charles Falkert; recorder, Charles W. Searight; treasurer, A. M. Heck;⁷ justices, Charles T. Hansen, Joseph Hatfield.

1899—President, Edwin Giles; trustees,

T. H. Kavanaugh, M. T. Mahoney, Charles Falkert; recorder, C. W. Searight; treasurer, Albert Wiese; justice, L. E. Ziegler.

1900—President, G. E. Arthur; trustees, T. H. Kavanaugh, M. T. Mahoney, Charles Falkert; recorder, A. W. Dressel; treasurer, Albert Wiese; justices, Fred Bussey, Peter Symens; constable, William Giles.

1901⁸—President, M. T. Mahoney; trustees, T. H. Kavanaugh, Fred Bussey, H. Zimmerman; recorder, T. R. Stewart; treasurer, Albert Wiese; assessor, Edwin Giles; justice, John Mahoney; constable, William Giles.

1902—President, T. A. Dickman; trustees, Fred Bussey, L. E. Ziegler, William Breiholz; recorder, John Mahoney; treasurer, Albert Wiese; assessor, Edwin Giles; justice, G. M. Ballard;⁹ constables, William Giles, Daniel Mahoney.

1903—President, Edwin Giles; trustees, William Breiholz, L. E. Ziegler, Henry Siebring; recorder, George Hatch; treasurer, Albert Wiese; assessor, John Mahoney; justices, E. J. Feldman, Fred Bussey; constable, Henry Sievers.

1904—President, P. M. Serrurier; trustees, William Breiholz, Henry Siebring, L. E. Ziegler;¹⁰ recorder, George Hatch; treasurer, Albert Wiese; assessor, H. Zimmerman; justice, G. N. Kieffer;¹¹ constables, William Giles, Frank Saunders.

1905—President, Edwin Giles; trustees, William Breiholz, Gus. Boehmke, C. T. Hansen; recorder, Frank Saunders; treasurer, Albert Wiese; assessor, Fred Bussey; justice, William Giles; constable, John Schmidt.

1906—President, P. M. Serrurier; trustees, Gus. Boehmke, William Breiholz, H. Schneiderman; recorder, Frank Saunders; treasurer, Albert Wiese; justices, Charles Ellis,¹² J. L. Bonn; constables, William Giles, A. Deitz.

1907—President, Gus. Boehmke; trustees, C. T. Hansen, William Schroeder, Fred W. Giles; recorder, Fred Bussey; treasurer, Albert Wiese; assessor, George Hatch; justice, P. M. Serrurier; constable, N. J. Steffen.

1908—President, Gus. Boehmke; trustees, C. T. Hansen, William Schroeder, Fred W. Giles; recorder, Fred Bussey; treasurer, Albert Wiese; assessor, George Hatch; justice, A. Lobeck; constables, W. P. Passer, William Giles.

1909—President, L. E. Ziegler; trustees,

⁵The judges of election were J. H. Bruins, G. E. Arthur and John Mahoney.

⁶The question of granting license has never been an issue at the polls. The regulation of the liquor traffic has been left entirely in the hands of the village council and there have always been saloons.

⁷Did not qualify and Albert Wiese was appointed.

⁸At the annual election of 1901 it was voted to detach the village from Grange and Rock

townships for election and assessment purposes.

⁹Resigned August 4, 1902, and was succeeded by Peter Symens.

¹⁰A vacancy was caused by the removal of Mr. Ziegler and was filled December 20, 1904, by the appointment of J. S. Garrett.

¹¹Succeeded November 7, 1904, by G. W. Clemens.

¹²Succeeded October 1, 1906, by George Hatch.

C. T. Hansen, Charles Falkert, H. D. Siebring; recorder, H. C. Doms; treasurer, Albert Wiese; assessor, Gus. Boehmke; justices, P. M. Serrurier, William Breiholz; constable, William Giles.

1910—President, L. E. Ziegler; trustees, Charles Falkert, H. D. Siebring, C. T. Hansen; recorder, H. C. Doms; treasurer, Albert Wiese; justices, P. M. Serrurier, Fred Bussey; constables, J. B. Huibregtse, William Giles.

1911—President, H. D. Siebring; trustees, Charles Falkert, William Breiholz, Joseph Lepper; recorder, H. C. Doms; treasurer, Albert Wiese; assessor, Gus. Boehmke; justices, Fred W. Giles, Fred Bussey; constable, William Giles.

Growth and advancement, at times slow but always certain, has been the experience of Holland since it became a municipality—the youngest in Pipestone county. The transition that had taken place in the town within a short time was thus noted by a visitor in September, 1899: "Eighteen months ago, where the bustling little village of Holland now stands there were only a couple of stores and a blacksmith shop. Now there are nearly twenty thriving business establishments and a fine prospect for more. The buildings are new and attractive and the town has an air of push and 'get there' that is refreshing to the man who has spent time in the older towns of the east. . . . The town in general shows more rapid development than any other town in the county."

When the federal census of 1900 was taken Holland had a population of 255. That year was one of great growth and was especially marked by the building up of the business section. The state census of 1905 showed a slight falling off, the enumeration giving a population of 211 inhabitants. During the last few years no town in Pipestone county has outstripped Holland in the matter of expansion and improvement. The census of 1910 gave a population of 293, making Holland rank fourth among Pipestone county municipalities.

THE SCHOOL.

For five or six years after the founding of Holland there was no public school in the village, the small school population being accommodated at a nearby district school. In 1894 a one-room building, still in use, was erected and Miss Fannie O'Neill was employed to teach the first term of school. The second teacher was Sarah Sass. The second building, adjoining and similar in dimensions to the original structure, was erected later. Both buildings are now in use and the school has an enrollment of over sixty pupils.

THE CHURCHES.

The German Lutheran church of Holland was organized in 1889 by Rev. R. Poetke, of Balaton, and he was the pastor for about five years. The church began life with a membership of twenty, among whom were M. Sierks, Albert Wiese, R. Reimers, Gottlieb Wiese, Henry Klein, Fred Reikow, Henry Claussen, N. Schultz, Herman Wiese and Fred Meyer. Services were held in the various homes in the country and in the Fountain Prairie school house until 1897. That year a house of worship was erected in Holland at a cost of \$1400. The dedication occurred December 12, 1897. Rev. Julius Daman was pastor of the church at the time the building was erected. He was succeeded by Rev. J. R. Kuhn and the latter in 1908 by Rev. J. Albright.

The Presbyterian is the second and only other active church organization in Holland. The church society was organized May 19, 1895, by Rev. N. H. Bell, pastor at large, with twenty members. A. P. Nelson, D. A. Bruner and Janus Huibregtse were the first elders. The society was incorporated June 6, 1895. For over a year services were held in a vacant store building. A house of worship was erected

during the summer of 1896 and was dedicated free of debt May 9, 1897. The Holland church has always been misistered to by the Presbyterian pastor of Woodstock.

The German Baptists, who at one time maintained a flourishing organization, have held no services since 1907. A church edifice, now unused, was erected during the season of 1901 at a cost of \$1600. It was dedicated June 15, 1902.

THE LODGES.

The pioneer fraternal order of Holland is Holland Camp No. 3666, Modern Woodmen of America, which was instituted March 24, 1896.¹³ The lodge has a home of its own, purchased in May, 1908, at a cost of \$1000.

Hiawatha Camp No. 5191, Royal Neighbors of America, was instituted February 18, 1908, with twenty-two charter members.¹⁴

Holland Lodge No. 177, Independent Order Odd Fellows, was organized June 2, 1908, with nine charter members.¹⁵

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The fire department of Holland is under the control of the village council. Annually that body appoints five firemen and a reserve force of the same number to constitute the membership. Daniel Mahoney was appointed the first fire chief May 15, 1899. The fire fighting apparatus consists of a Watrous gas fire engine, an 1100 barrel water tank, 100 feet of hose and hooks and ladders.

¹³The charter members of Holland Camp were Richard Artman, James S. Garrett, M. L. Garrett, William Giles, Philip M. Halley, Charles Hatfield, John Mahoney, M. T. Mahoney, Joseph Masek, L. H. Russell, W. H. Russell, W. P. Russell, Alva Smith, Patrick Sullivan, Ceylon E. Taylor, John Toutges, P. M. Wiese, Frank Hsabak, Joseph Drake and William McGillivray.

¹⁴The charter members of Hiawatha Camp were Julia Arrowsmith, James Arrowsmith, Gus Boehmke, Anna Boehmke, Charles A. Doughty, Henry C. Doms, Lena Doughty, Ettie Ehlers,

THE BANK.

Harris & Jacobs established the Bank of Holland as a private institution in the summer of 1899. The original proprietors were succeeded in March, 1901, by a company composed of A. T. Serrurier, R. W. Green, P. M. Serrurier and others, P. M. Serrurier becoming the manager. Two years later the institution was organized under the state banking laws as the Holland State Bank, with a capital stock of \$10,000. It opened for business under the new organization January 30, 1903, with the following officers: A. T. Serrurier, president; R. W. Green, vice president; P. M. Serrurier, cashier. Mr. Serrurier was succeeded as cashier in August, 1910, by Gus. Boehmke. The bank now has a capital and surplus of \$25,000.

RUTHTON.

Pipestone county's fifth town in point of size is Ruthton. It is one of the more recently established villages but one that has been builded by a wide-awake and enterprising class of citizens. Broad and well-kept streets are a noticeable feature, and in the matter of public improvements no municipality of its class in southwestern Minnesota can eclipse it. Ruthton is beautifully located. It is in the extreme northeastern corner of the county, a portion of the town lying on either side of the line that divides sections 10 and 11, Aetna township. It is a station on the

Fred W. Giles, Frankie Giles, Olof Hansen, Lillian W. Hatch, George H. Hatch, Violet Hatch, Rozetta Serrurier, Nicholas J. Steffen, Anna Smith, Stelle T. Steffen, James E. Wells, Marie Wells, Pearl E. Wells and Anna B. Wells.

¹⁵Seventeen new members were added at the first meeting. The nine charter members were Fred W. Giles, William Giles, Fred Bussey, P. M. Serrurier, Palmer Wilkinson, A. E. Schubert, L. E. Ziegler, C. T. Hansen and A. Everson.

Great Northern railroad and is sixteen miles northeast from the county seat.

Considerable enthusiasm was awakened in Pipestone county during the late eighties following the announcement of the proposed construction of the fourth line of railway. The Willmar & Sioux Falls railroad (now a part of the Great Northern system) was an agency that brought Pipestone county into direct and desirable communication with a theretofore inaccessible territory to the north and bettered the conveniences for shipping grain to the twin city and Duluth markets. With the coming of this road in 1888 came the almost simultaneous birth of four villages in Pipestone county—Ruthton, Holland, Hilen and Jasper. The firm of Moore & Sherman was granted the rights of locating and promoting the two first named of these villages.

Moore & Sherman commenced their operations in April, 1888, several months before the track-layers, working southward, entered the county. The promoters selected the site of Ruthton and before the end of May purchased the land and let it be known that there one of their towns would be located.¹⁶ During May, also, the railroad company issued a table of stations, including those already established and others in the making, in which for the first time was mentioned Ruthton as the name of a Pipestone county station.¹⁷ At the time the site was barren of improvements.

During the second week in June depot grounds were selected and a side-track

was graded, and on June 26 Alfred S. Tee completed the survey of the townsite for Moore & Sherman.¹⁸ All was in readiness for the founding of the town so soon as the railroad should reach the site. The track was completed to Ruthton by the middle of September, and on October 2 regular train service was established over that part of the line north of Pipestone.

A few buildings were erected on the Ruthton townsite before the close of the year 1888 and three or four business enterprises were put under way. The first building erected on the site was a grain warehouse put up by the Northwestern Elevator company, which was in operation early in October. S. H. Strand was installed as the first buyer and manager. During October, also, the railroad company erected a water tank, a small section house and a platform, which served the purpose of a depot. D. G. Smith moved from his farm and conducted a boarding house in the little building erected for a section house. J. Rains erected a residence and a blacksmith shop in October and worked at his trade. The townsite proprietors put up a store building, in which George E. Cooley opened a general store in December. About the same time A. F. Reynolds moved a farm house to the site from a nearby farm, and that completed the activities in the little town for the year.

No boom accompanied the founding of Ruthton; in fact, its growth for the first ten years was slow. Some progress was made in 1889. The postoffice was estab-

¹⁶"The town of Ruthton, on the Willmar & Sioux Falls, has been located on sections 10 and 11, Aetna township. The town plat will soon be ready to select building lots from, and those wishing choice sites should apply to Mr. Moore early."—Pipestone County Star, June 1, 1888.

¹⁷The name was given in honor of the wife of W. H. Sherman, one of the townsite proprietors. Originally it was the intention to designate the place Ruthven but the name Ruth-ton was the one more favored by the railroad authorities.

¹⁸The townsite was dedicated by Moore & Sherman September 24. Nine blocks were in-

cluded on the original plat, of which the streets running east and west were named Harrison, Aetna, Main and Cleveland, while those north and south were named Railroad, Smith, Leo and Duluth avenues. The following additions have been platted:

Sherman & Moore's, by Leon H. Moore, Calvin Hitchcock and Frank M. Sibley (comprising the firm of C. Hitchcock & Co.), August 9, 1897.

South, by C. Hitchcock & Co., December 24, 1897.

Leo, by Leon H. Moore and Leo A. Moore, August 17, 1900.

Mill, by Leon H. Moore, Leo A. Moore and L. Wallenberg, April 30, 1901.

lished June 3, with D. G. Smith as postmaster.¹⁹ A school house was completed early in June, and on the first of August a station agent was assigned to the new town. The first of November the pioneer merchant, George E. Cooley, was succeeded by Hamilton DeHart, who conducted the store only a short time, selling to Strand Bros.

During 1890 there were a few additions. P. A. Myllenbeck opened a blacksmith shop; H. Bruins engaged in the farm implement business, of which John Wheadon was the local manager; W. H. Ross, of Sioux Falls, erected a large shed and engaged in the lumber business, being represented by George Bingham; in the fall of 1891 a depot building was erected. During the next few years Ruthton experienced much the same gradual growth. Eggers & Sierks opened a meat market; a second general store was established by H. Martinson; H. Nelson added to the list of enterprises by opening a hotel.

Surrounded as it was by a fertile agricultural country that demanded a convenient market and trade center, it was only natural that in time an important town should eventuate. And so the turn of events proved. Ruthton, the unpretentious country hamlet, was destined to be roused from its lethargy and transformed into one of the important county towns. The beginning of the transformation came in 1896. Many new buildings were erected, new business enterprises were established, and there was a large increase in population. A visitor to the town in August, 1896, commented on the improved and thrifty appearance of the place and stated that "Ruthton has all the essential elements for the making of a first-class town and in time will be-

come one of the leading trade centers of Pipestone county." A business directory compiled at that time listed the following business houses: H. Martinson, general merchandise; Carlson Bros., general merchandise; J. F. Hinck, postmaster and drug store; H. Nelson, hotel; Ross Lumber Co., George Bingham, manager; Northwestern Elevator Co., O. W. Olson, manager; Inter-State Grain Co., Mr. Green, manager; Frank Jacobson, blacksmith; Gilbertson & Gryte, livery; M. M. Burns, real estate; Co-operative Creamery Co., Peterson & Sodergaard, managers; E. E. Ayers, agent Great Northern Railroad company.

Progress continued through 1897, building operations having commenced early in the season. The residence district was substantially added to and several new business blocks were erected. Among the new business firms were W. H. Bowles, who opened a furniture store; Sandeen Bros., who engaged in the implement business; Olson & Rasmussen, who founded the third general store; and B. Bertelsen, a blacksmith and machinist.

Such had been the progress that in the fall of 1897 Ruthton was incorporated. A census, taken September 22, showed that there were 185 people living within the limits of the proposed corporation. The usual petition was presented to the board of county commissioners and on September 28 the county law-making body took the necessary action and called a special election for November 2 to vote on the question. The election was held in the public hall and was conducted under the direction of J. F. Hinck, H. Martinson and W. T. Burns, who had been named inspectors by the county board. Of thirty-four votes cast, only one

¹⁹Postmasters of Ruthton have been as follows: D. G. Smith, June, 1889, to 1891; S. H. Strand, 1891 to 1893; J. F. Hinck, 1893 to December, 1897; H. Martinson, December, 1897, to March, 1907; N. C. Bertelsen, March, 1907, to Decem-

ber, 1908; P. A. Nelson, December, 1908, to the present. A money order department was added April 6, 1896. One rural route, established in 1908, is in operation.

was in opposition to incorporation. The first officers for the village government were chosen November 16, when thirty-eight votes were cast. The results of the several village elections since Ruthton began municipal government have been as follows:²⁰

1897—President, O. W. Olson; trustees, H. Nelson, E. K. Gryte, P. A. Myllenbeck; recorder, W. C. Smith; treasurer, R. Rasmussen; justices, J. F. Hinck, O. H. Williams; constables, Ben Martinson, S. P. Boehm.

1898—President, E. E. Ayers; trustees, J. F. Hinck, H. Nelson, O. H. Williams; recorder, W. S. Ingraham; treasurer, M. J. Evans; justices, E. E. Ayers, F. L. Nash; constables, Charles Sabin, Ole Gilbertson.

1899—President, Hans Martinson; trustees, W. H. Bowles, Hans Damm, Frank P. Jacobson; recorder, T. T. Vrenne; treasurer, M. J. Evans; assessor, J. E. Byllings; justice, J. F. Hinck; constable; W. S. Ingraham.

1900—President, Hans Martinson; trustees, Frank P. Jacobson, Hans Damm, J. Rolan; recorder, T. T. Vrenne; treasurer, M. J. Evans; assessor, J. M. Denison; justice, D. G. Smith; constables, Ole Gilbertson, S. Sandberg.

1901—President, Frank P. Jacobson; trustees, R. D. Kelson, Charles Linderman, W. C. Smith; recorder, T. T. Vrenne; treasurer, M. J. Evans; assessor, J. M. Denison; justices, John Severson, A. M. Anderson; constables, Peter Rasmussen, G. G. Gilbertson.

1902—President, C. Diehl; trustees, H. Nelson, S. Bertelsen, S. B. Duea; recorder, F. L. Nash; treasurer, Nels Bertelsen; assessor, J. M. Denison; justice, J. F. Hinck; constable, A. M. Anderson.

1903—President, S. Bertelsen; trustees, C. Jensen, M. J. Calderwood, P. A. Nelson; recorder, Henry E. Martinson; treasurer, Nels Bertelsen; assessor, O. M. Sandberg; justice, C. P. Carlson; constables, Niels Peterson, W. R. Ellis.

1904—President, S. Bertelsen; trustees, M. J. Calderwood, C. Jensen, P. A. Nelson; recorder, Henry E. Martinson; treasurer, Nels Bertelsen; assessor, J. M. Denison; justices, L. W. Henderson, C. Diehl; constables, Charles Smith, Hans Damm.

1905—President, S. Bertelsen; trustees, C. M. Christensen, W. Towne, Holger Pederson; recorder, Henry E. Martinson; treas-

urer, S. B. Duea; justices, J. M. Denison, Dan Spangler; constable, N. P. Hansen.

1906—President, S. Bertelsen; trustees, W. Towne, E. O. Ageton, C. M. Christensen; recorder, C. P. Carlson; treasurer, S. B. Duea; justice, W. H. Smith; constable, G. G. Gilbertson.

1907—President, S. Bertelsen; trustees, E. O. Ageton, P. A. Nelson,²¹ C. M. Christensen; recorder, C. P. Carlson; treasurer, S. B. Duea; assessor, J. M. Denison; justice, W. C. Smith; constable, Alfred Peterson.

1908—President, S. Bertelsen; trustees, J. F. Carlson, C. Jensen, C. M. Christensen; recorder, Holger Pederson; treasurer, Nels Bertelsen; assessor, J. M. Denison; justice, S. P. Boehm.

1909—President, S. Bertelsen; trustees, C. Jensen, T. P. Hermanson, Charles Linderman; recorder, H. V. Pedersen; treasurer, Nels Bertelsen; assessor, J. M. Denison; justice, R. Severson; constables, O. B. Johnson, C. H. Droun.

1910—President, C. M. Christensen; trustees, George R. Stevens, C. Jensen, O. M. Sandberg; recorder, Mark Woolstencroft; treasurer, Nels Bertelsen; justice, J. M. Denison; constable, Axel Palm.

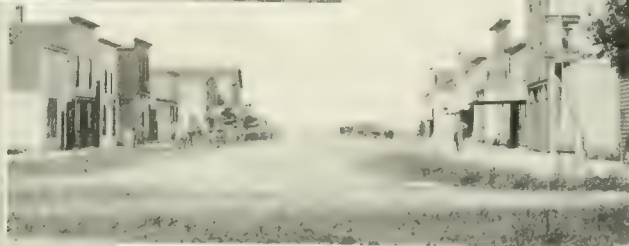
1911—President, S. Bertelsen; trustees, C. Gilbertson, C. Jensen, O. M. Sandberg; recorder, P. A. Nelson; treasurer, Nels Bertelsen; assessor, N. P. Hansen; justices, R. Severson, Henry Harder; constable, O. B. Johnson.

The first and only disastrous fire in Ruthton's history occurred in the early morning of January 10, 1898. The fire originated in the rear of Olson & Rasmussen's store building and before the flames could be checked several buildings and their contents in the business part of the village were destroyed. The estimated losses were \$12,450, distributed as follows: Olson & Rasmussen, general merchandise store, \$7800; Questad & Vrenne, hardware stock, \$2800; W. H. Bowles, furniture store, \$1200; Chris Hogan, store building; \$500; W. M. Burns, real estate office, \$150. The burnt district was immediately rebuilt, nearly all the work of hauling material, construction, etc., being donated. The

²⁰The license question under the local option law has been voted upon several times. The first time in 1890 when license was authorized by a vote of 36 to 11. Thereafter until 1902 the question was not again submitted. In 1902 license carried by a vote of 42 to 26 and the following year by a vote of 51 to 16. During the next three years, the question was not an issue at the polls and license was granted

In 1907 the no license advocates were successful by a vote of 39 to 22, as they were the next year by a vote of 41 to 26. Since 1908 the question has not been submitted and license has not been granted.

²¹Resigned April 23, 1907, and was succeeded by D. Hanson.



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building improvements for 1898 were not confined to the restoration of the destroyed area, several other structures being erected and several new enterprises being put under way. The total improvements for the year amounted to over \$20,000. The year 1898 marked the beginning of a very prosperous era in the history of the little village.²²

For several years there was substantial growth and when the federal census of 1900 was taken the village had a population of 323. There was neither gain nor loss in population during the next five years, the state census of 1905 listing the same number of inhabitants.

The opening years of the present century were prosperous ones in Ruthton and many new enterprises were established. A flouring mill was erected, and in 1901 two new elevators were built, making a total of five in the town. A system of waterworks was installed late in the year 1902.²³ More public improvements were made in 1905. One June 6 the voters authorized a \$1000 bond issue, and the money thus obtained was used in improving the streets, extending the water system and in the construction of cement crossings and curbings. The census of 1910 gave Ruthton a population of 290.

THE SCHOOL.

Ruthton maintains a school system that a much larger town might justly take pride in. The history of school district No. 55 dates from the spring of 1889. At an election on March 9 of that year A. E. Reynolds was chosen director; S.

H. Strand, clerk; and John Wheadon, treasurer; and those gentlemen served as the first governing board of the Ruthton school. At an election on March 23, 1889, bonds for the erection of a school house were voted, and the building was completed in time to open school early in June.²⁴ Mrs. Wilkins was the first teacher.

The present commodious two-story building was erected in 1898 on lots donated by L. A. Moore and with money raised by a bond issue. In recent years new and modern equipment has been added, and the school property is now valued at \$7000. Ten grades are maintained, conducted by five teachers. The enrollment is about 125.

THE CHURCHES.

Of the three church organizations in Ruthton, that of the Danish Lutherans is the oldest, having been organized shortly after the founding of the town. There was a large Danish settlement in Aetna township, nearly all of whom were of the Lutheran faith, and to these Rev. C. Petersen, president of the Danish college at Tyler, began to minister in 1889. That year the church society was organized in the new school house, and on October 26 the following were chosen to constitute the first board of trustees: Erick Peterson, president; Jens Peterson, Rasmus Nelson, O. B. Johnson and Hans Carlson. Through this body the church was incorporated as the Danish Evangelical Lutheran church of Ruthton.

For ten years the Danish Lutherans were without a church home. Following

²²"Freight receipts at this station for the month of February, last year, were \$158.96, corresponding month this year, \$925.29. Our agent, Mr. Ayers, says the receipts have more than doubled every month during the year, which speaks volumes for our little city, which had a phenomenal growth last year, and already new buildings are planned to far exceed our last year's advancement."—Ruthton Gazette, March 11, 1898.

²³At the annual village election on March 12, 1901, the proposition to issue bonds for installing a water works system was defeated, but the proposition was carried at a special election October 7, 1902, by a vote of 54 to 8. A \$3000 bond issue was authorized, which, with the funds already in the treasury, was used in the construction of the plant, which was turned over to the village December 17, 1902.

²⁴The original school house is now located on Main Street and is occupied as a harness shop by John Beck.

The Danish Brotherhood has an active organization in Ruthton. Hope Lodge No. 253 was instituted February 25, 1901, by Frederick Petersen, of Tyler.²⁹

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

At a public meeting held March 23, 1908, eight men enlisted as volunteer firemen, and of the number Holger Pedersen was chosen chief. The initial organization was not long-lived. A reorganization was brought about May 18, 1910, when the following were chosen officers: H. Harders, chief; E. O. Ageton, president; George Stevens, secretary; Nels Bertelsen, treasurer. The department consists of ten members.

THE BANK.

The Ruthton State Bank is the only bank in the village. It is the successor of the First National Bank, which, in turn, was the outgrowth of a private banking house established during the fall of 1891 by M. J. Evans, of Sac City, Iowa.

The First National Bank of Ruthton was organized in May, 1901, by M. J. Evans, E. N. Bailey, L. W. Felter, Lottie Felter and M. H. Evans. It was capitalized at \$25,000 and M. J. Evans was the president, which office he held until May, 1903. At that time he sold a controlling interest to C. Diehl and M. J. Calderwood, who became, respectively, president and cashier.

A second bank, the Citizens Bank, was established by Pipestone capitalists in February, 1903, but it was merged with the First National in July of the same year. In November, 1904, there was a complete change in the management of the First National, E. W. Davies becoming president and S. B. Duea, cashier. Early in 1910 the First National Bank of Ruthton became the State Bank of Ruthton, capitalized at \$20,000. Business was begun under the state banking laws March 1, 1910, with the following board of directors: S. B. Duea, E. W. Davies, T. P. Hermanson, S. Bertelsen, O. B. Johnson, J. M. Denison and August Green.

²⁹Of the charter membership the following were elected to office at the time of organization: Laurids Sorensen, C. Jensen, Martin Pedersen, Viggo Jensen, Mads Jorgensen, T. P.

Hermansen, Julius Hansen, Emil Jorgensen, Alfred Petersen, Rasmus C. Rasmussen and L. P. Rasmussen.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

WOODSTOCK AND TROSKY.

THIRD in age among Pipestone county towns is the Burke township village of Woodstock. It was founded in 1879, only a few months after the village of Edgerton came into existence. For beauty of situation no village in Pipestone county surpasses it. It rests upon an elevated plateau, which overlooks in every direction an excellent farming country. Its founders exercised the best of judgment in the selection, for it is one of the most desirable sites to be found in southwestern Minnesota. Woodstock is located on one of the highest points of land in the state of Minnesota—on the hill-top of Pipestone county. Its elevation, as reported by the Omaha railroad surveyors, is 1822 feet above sea level. It has always been distinguished as a lively business center and as an attractive residence village. It has excellent schools, strong church organizations and flourishing fraternal societies.

Woodstock is a station on the Heron Lake-Pipestone branch of the Omaha railroad and is twelve miles east of the county seat. For a number of years it was the western terminus of the branch road and that fact led to its development into a flourishing little village earlier than

otherwise would have been the case. It was the building of the line of railroad, originally styled the Minnesota & Black Hills Railroad company—affiliated with the interests of the old Sioux City & St. Paul Railroad company—that led to the founding of a town on the Burke township prairie. The matter of locating a station in Burke township on the line of railroad building from the east was a topic of general interest so early as the spring of 1879. In the issue of the Pipestone County Star of July 3 a correspondent from the east end of the county presented arguments to prove that a station established in Burke township would prove a paying investment to the railroad company. Before many months such a condition had come to pass.

Before the site was selected for a station and townsite, in the early summer of 1879, upon the petition of settlers in the vicinity, a postoffice named Hickcox's Prairie was established at the home of Granger Hickcox, just across the grade from the future town. The gentleman after whom the office was named became postmaster and conducted it several months before it was replaced by the Woodstock office.¹ In September, 1879,

¹Hickcox's Prairie postoffice lost its identity upon the removal of the office to Woodstock. In 1880 the office was maintained in T. T. Fitzgerald's store and that gentleman was the post-

master. He was succeeded in January, 1885, by Fred Bloom, who served under the appointment only a few months. Charles Lindsay took the office under the democratic administration and

the railroad company purchased from Kasson Hickey land on section 2 for townsite purposes, and in the latter part of that month the site was surveyed by R. J. Dukes, a civil engineer in the employ of the railroad company.² The dedication of the plat was made October 1 by H. H. Sibley, the vice president, and George A. Hamilton, the secretary, of the Sioux City & St. Paul Railroad company. The original plat was divided into nine blocks.³ Woodstock received its first inhabitant at about the time the plat was made. He was August Luhde, a bachelor, who moved from his nearby homestead and erected a small shop near the center of Main street, where he engaged in the blacksmith business. The track-layers completed the road to the site early in October, and the company built a platform in lieu of a depot. At the close of the year 1879 Woodstock consisted solely of August Luhde's shop and the platform.

For a few months the site was generally known as Hickey's Prairie, but when the plat was put on record, it was as Woodstock. The village was named after Woodstock, the county seat of McHenry county, Illinois, which was named after

Woodstock, Vermont, and that after a town in England.⁴

In 1880 Woodstock became a town in fact as well as in name. Several residents located in the village and several business enterprises were established. Early in the year the railroad company erected a cottage for an agent's residence and a little later built the depot which has ever since done duty, installing a Mr. Bowen as the first agent.⁵ In the spring T. T. Fitzgerald came from Wisconsin and erected the building now occupied by the Woodstock News. He became the first merchant of the village, putting in a stock of general merchandise and drugs and becoming postmaster. Among the other enterprises founded in the spring of 1880 was a warehouse by Lucius S. Cutting, who came from Olmsted county. His warehouse was 21x60 feet and was provided with living rooms overhead. A little later his son, Albert Cutting, put in a stock of merchandise in one part of the warehouse. S. M. Pasco also established a lumber yard in the spring. Richard Atkins moved his farm residence to the new village from section 1, and in the fall George A. Miller erected a shop and succeeded August Luhde as the village black-

smith until 1889 when he was succeeded by Fred Bloom who served until 1893. Mr. Landsay then took charge of the office under President Cleveland's second administration and held office until 1897. Since that date Fred Bloom has held the office continuously. Excepting Pipestone, Woodstock was the first Pipestone county town to secure rural free delivery. Three routes are now operated from the office: No. 1, established September 1, 1900; No. 2, established November 1, 1902; No. 3, established June 1, 1908. Woodstock has been a money order office since January, 1893.

"Mr. Hickey feels considerably elated over the prospects of a new town [not yet named] just laid out on a part of his farm at the present terminus of the Minnesota & Black Hills road."—Pipestone County Star, September 25, 1879.

The following persons are supposed to have been the first residents of Woodstock:

First, by Elias F. Drake and A. H. Wilder, the first residents of the village.

Hickey's, by Sarah G. Hickey, November 5, 1880.

Second, by John C. French, January 1, 1880.

⁴The naming of Woodstock as here given is on the authority of the county record official.

as set forth in a booklet, recently issued, giving the derivation of names along their lines of road. Pioneer settlers of Woodstock give an entirely different version. They state that the town was named at the time of the arrival of the first train to the station. This event was witnessed by a large assemblage of homesteaders, who gathered from the nearby claims to get a sight of the iron horse. The "pathfinder" was a work train, piloted by a man named Wood. On bringing his engine to a stop at the new station the engineer stepped from his cab to the platform and on noticing a pile of timber nearby announced, from this suggestion and by way of honor to himself, that he would christen the new town Woodstock. The proposal met with a ready acceptance by the group of witnesses, as there had been considerable opposition to the name Hickey's Prairie. Perhaps the engineer had advance information as to the naming of the town by the railroad officials and took that means of announcing it and, incidentally, of securing a little honor to himself.

⁵Mr. Bowen was in charge only until the fall of 1880. He was succeeded by George W. Nash, the present register of deeds of Pipestone county.



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smith. Those constituted the improvements during the year 1880.

The memorable blizzardy winter followed, during which there were no improvements and during which the stocks of the business men were depleted. The following summer came a continuation of the growth. H. B. Ellithorpe erected a building next to the Fitzgerald store and opened a meat market. Later in the year the firm of Ellithorpe & Ware purchased the Albert Cutting stock of merchandise. The building now occupied by the post-office was erected during the summer of 1881 by W. A. Patton, who conducted a boarding house, and before the grain buying season commenced the Hubbard & Palmer company built a second warehouse.

The year 1882 was a notable one in the history of Woodstock, for it was then that the village was selected as headquarters by two firms which inaugurated movements that meant much for the future of the little town. One of these firms was the American Land & Colonization company, promoted by Scotch capital to undertake a colonization project; the other was the land firm of Sampson & French, of Storm Lake, Iowa.

The colonization company, which brought about a large immigration of thrifty Scotch to southwestern Minnesota, although unsuccessful in carrying out as elaborately as planned its scheme for filling up the lands in Pipestone and Murray counties, over which it secured control, became an important agency in the building of Woodstock. The company purchased a half interest in the townsite, erected an office building and installed D. M. Fyffe as local agent. A number of Scotch immigrants settled in the village and surrounding country, one of whom, James Whyte, became the landlord of the Scotland hotel, erected late in

the spring of 1882. A livery barn was also erected and operated in connection. The large landed interests of Sampson & French in the adjoining territory induced that firm to locate headquarters in Woodstock in 1882, in charge of G. H. Perry. Two new store buildings were added to the village that year, one by T. T. Fitzgerald, the pioneer merchant, the other by H. B. Ellithorpe, who had succeeded the firm of Ellithorpe & Ware.

Progress continued through 1883. A grocery and notion store was established by Wesler Webster in a building remodeled from the Cutting warehouse, which had been moved to a location on Main street. On the site vacated, Sampson & French erected a steam elevator and feed mill, with a capacity of 20,000 bushels. This firm also established a lumber yard and late in September founded the Bank of Woodstock, to house which a neat building was erected. Other business houses were opened in the course of the year, and Woodstock took its place as one of the lively Pipestone county towns. A business directory, issued in the spring of 1884, listed the following:

T. T. Fitzgerald, general store and postmaster.
 H. B. Ellithorpe, general store.
 Fred Bloom, general store.
 Bank of Woodstock, George C. Eyland, Jr., cashier.
 M. W. Ware, hardware store.
 D. M. Fyffe, agent American Land & Colonization Co.
 G. H. Perry, agent Sampson & French.
 James Whyte, proprietor Scotland house.
 C. C. Cole, hotel and restaurant.
 Perry & Eyland, lumber dealers.
 E. C. Hind, livery stable.
 G. W. Nash, station agent and manager Peavey Bros.' warehouse.
 George A. Miller, blacksmith and machine shop.
 R. E. McAllister, barber shop.
 Eagan & Shea, saloon.
 Morris Moriarty, saloon.

The year 1885 was characterized by activity in the upbuilding of the town. A number of new business houses were put up,

the Presbyterian church was brought to completion, and a dozen residences were erected. It was a twelve-month of rapid development, not only in the town, but in the surrounding country, and prosperous times prevailed.⁶ There was a steady advance also during the next half dozen years, and when a special census was taken in the spring of 1892 the village had a population of 206 people.

Woodstock became an incorporated municipality in the summer of 1892. The petition to the board of county commissioners which resulted in that action was dated May 12, 1892.⁷ It asked for the incorporation of 1440 acres of land on sections 2, 3, 10 and 11, Burke township. Favorable action was taken at a meeting of the board May 21.⁸ The election to decide the question was held in the Woodstock depot June 23, when 27 votes were

cast in favor of incorporation and 7 against.⁹ The election to select the first village officers was held July 11, and two days later the village council met and organized. Those who have been elected to village office in Woodstock are as follows:¹⁰

1892—President, Fred Bloom; trustees, James Shields, Ed. Wilkins, David Deits; recorder, Frank Chard; treasurer, J. S. Malone;¹¹ justices, John Kepner, F. D. Bennett; constables, R. E. McAlister, L. E. Deits.

1893—President, Fred Bloom; trustees, James Shields, Ed. Wilkins, David Deits; recorder, James E. Craig; treasurer, R. Atkins; justice, Charles Lindsay.

1894—President, Fred Bloom; trustees, Charles Lindsay, George Curry, George A. Miller; recorder, James E. Craig; treasurer, F. D. Bennett; justices, G. W. Nash, James Shields; constables, L. E. Deits, James Hendren.

1895—President, Fred Bloom; trustees, George Curry, George H. Shields, J. J. Hennessy; recorder, L. C. Bloom; treasurer, J.

"During an hour's visit at Woodstock Saturday evening we had a chance to see the many improvements that have taken place there during the past year, and we are safe in saying that, considering its resources, there is not a town in this section of the state that has made more rapid strides. The improvements are not gorgeous by any means, but are substantial and show that solid men have undertaken the work of building up a town that is a credit to Pipestone county in every sense of the word. The country around Woodstock is as fine as any that can be found, and through the untiring efforts of Messrs. Sampson & French, Peoria & Edward and the American Land & Colonization company, by their agent, D. M. Fyffe, it is being rapidly filled up with a class of settlers that will in a short time make Woodstock a business point second to no other in this section. The business of the town is represented by a class of live men who are continually improving their places of business and carry large stocks of goods."—Pipestone County Star, May 29, 1892.

The signers of the petition were Fred Bloom, James E. Craig, C. L. Wing, F. D. Bennett, L. E. Deits, Ed. Wilkins, E. W. Coleman, Francis Chard, John L. Soules, George A. Miller, James Shields, Thomas Shea, G. W. Nash, A. Helgeson, S. C. Lilly, A. M. Moore, David Deits, J. I. Shields, C. Schelrud, John K. Kepner, James Hendren, E. S. VanWalker, C. A. Hyson, A. E. McAlister, C. E. Walling, M. Anderson, Charles Lindsay, John Conway, William Moriarity, George Conant, R. E. McAlister, Ferdinand Lempke, Morris Moriarity and James Keenan.

"James E. Craig, Fred Bloom and G. W. Nash came over from Woodstock last evening. They brought with them a petition asking for permission to vote upon the matter of incorporation, and the document will be laid before the commissioners at their meeting on Saturday. This is the third petition the people of Woodstock have presented. The first one was

lost. The second one reached the board and was acted upon, but a mistake in posting the election notices made it worthless, and now it is to be hoped this one will be successful in its mission."—Pipestone County Star, May 20, 1892.

"The thirty-four electors who voted on the question were James E. Craig, R. E. McAlister, J. I. Shields, Fred Bloom, Frank Chard, A. M. Moore, Walter Rice, S. C. Lilly, F. D. Bennett, C. L. Wing, Richard Atkins, James Hendren, John Conway, F. Lempke, G. W. Nash, James Keenan, L. E. Deits, E. Coleman, James Hennessy, William Moriarity, Herman Buschenfeld, John Droste, Ed. Wilkins, Morris Moriarity, Charles Lindsay, George Conant, David Deits, John K. Kepner, George A. Miller, C. A. Hyson, M. Anderson, Chris Schelrud, Andrew Helgeson and John Soules.

"At nearly every annual election since the village was incorporated the license question has been an issue. In 1895, 1896, 1908, 1909, 1910 and 1911 license was defeated; in other years it was granted. The several elections on the question resulted as follows:

1895	For, 35; against, 7.
1894	For, 28; against, 22.
1895	For, 22; against, 24.
1896	For, 20; against, 25.
1897	For, 29; against, 13.
1898	For, 33; against, 10.
1899	Not an issue.
1900	For, 41; against, 19.
1901	Not an issue.
1902	Not an issue.
1903	For, 60; against, 9.
1904	Not an issue.
1905	Not an issue.
1906	For, 42; against, 25.
1907	License by 6 majority.
1908	For, 39; against, 25.
1909	Against license carried.
1910	For, 28; against, 30.
1911	Against license by 9 majority.

"Did not qualify. Samuel Parks appointed.

S. Malone; assessor, C. H. Baxter; justice, M. Anderson.

1896—President, Charles Lindsay; trustees, J. J. Hennessy, George Curry, E. S. VanWalker; recorder, L. C. Bloom; treasurer, F. D. Bennett; justices, James Shields, John LaRue; constables, James Hendren, L. E. Deits.

1897—President, George Curry; trustees, J. J. Hennessy, David Deits, Ed. Wilkins; recorder, L. C. Bloom; treasurer, George A. Miller; justices, James Shields, John LaRue; constable, James Hendren.

1898—President, George Curry; trustees, J. J. Hennessy, David Deits, Ed. Wilkins; recorder, L. C. Bloom; treasurer, George A. Miller; justices, James Shields, J. K. Kepner; constables, James Hendren, R. E. McAlister.

1899—President, Ed. Wilkins; trustees, W. D. Parker, R. W. Green, T. R. Stewart; recorder, L. C. Bloom; treasurer, George A. Miller; assessor, J. K. Kepner; justice, James Shields; constables, James Hendren, R. E. McAlister.

1900—President, J. J. Hennessy; trustees, C. S. Miller, R. W. Green, David Deits; recorder, L. C. Bloom; treasurer, George A. Miller; assessor, Frank Chard; justices, Fred Bloom, James Shields; constables, James Hendren, John Calkins.

1901—President, R. W. Green; trustees, C. S. Miller, F. G. Sullivan, David Deits; recorder, L. C. Bloom; treasurer, George A. Miller; assessor, Frank Chard; justices, James Shields, Fred Bloom; constables, James Hendren, John Calkins.

1902—President, C. J. Meys; trustees, F. G. Sullivan, Anton Giever, W. H. Sheeran; recorder, L. C. Bloom; treasurer, George A. Miller; assessor, Frank Chard; justices, Fred Bloom, W. H. Musser; constables, James Hendren, John Calkins.

1903—President, Fred Bloom; trustees, W. D. Parker, E. L. Myers, C. J. Meys; recorder, Charles Lindsay; treasurer, George A. Miller; assessor, E. M. Gentry; justices, F. D. Bennett, George H. Shields; constable, L. E. Deits.

1904—President, J. J. Hennessy; trustees, E. L. Myers, M. J. Sheeran, C. J. Meys; recorder, Charles Lindsay; treasurer, James Jackson; assessor, Frank Chard; justices, George H. Shields, L. C. Bloom; constables, James Hendren, R. E. McAlister.

1905—President, J. J. Hennessy; trustees, E. L. Myers, C. J. Meys, B. J. Mooney; recorder, M. J. Sheeran; treasurer, James Jackson; assessor, Frank Chard; justice, George H. Shields; constables, James Hendren, L. E. Deits.

1906—President, J. J. Hennessy; trustees, J. W. Woods, J. M. Baker, C. J. Meys; recorder, Charles Lindsay; treasurer, James Jackson; assessor, Frank Chard;

justice, H. J. Reiff; constables, Henry Pfeiffer, James Hendren.

1907—President, William Doms; trustees, C. J. Meys, R. M. Conner, C. S. Cutting; recorder, W. H. Sheeran; treasurer, James Jackson; assessor, Frank Chard; justice, George H. Shields; constable, R. E. McAlister.

1908—President, William Doms; trustees, R. M. Conner, C. S. Cutting, N. J. Biever; recorder, W. H. Sheeran; treasurer, James Jackson; assessor, Frank Chard; justice, H. J. Reiff; constable, James Hendren.

1909—President, Fred Bloom; trustees, R. M. Conner, Anton Giever, N. J. Biever; recorder, George Moline; treasurer, James Jackson; assessor, H. J. Reiff; justices, George H. Shields, A. Bean; constables, James Hendren, John W. Delaney.

1910—President, Charles Lindsay; trustees, Anton Giever, John Hoog, Fred Melcher; recorder, N. J. Biever;¹² treasurer, James Jackson; justice, W. H. Sheeran; constable, John W. Delaney.

1911—President, Charles Lindsay; trustees, Frank Movall, C. A. Anderson, John Hoog; recorder, George Moline; treasurer, James Jackson; assessor, J. S. Malone; justice, George A. Miller; constable, J. B. Tebbin.

During the nineteen years of its corporate existence Woodstock has made favorable progress. The dull years which followed the panic of 1893 brought a stop to the advancement, but it was only temporary, and the closing years of the nineteenth century brought a return of the prosperous times. The years 1899 and 1900 were particularly profitable ones and witnessed the expenditure of nearly \$50,000 on improvements in the village. Included in the items were a school house, an elevator, a village hall, a number of business blocks and many residences. The census of 1900 gave Woodstock a population of 211, and in 1905 the population had increased to 280. During the next five year period there was a slight falling off, the enumeration of 1910 showing a population of 226. The last few years have brought a number of improvements, public and private, and the prospects for a continuation of the present era of prosperity are excellent.

¹²Resigned July 11, 1910, and was succeeded by A. H. Higley.

THE SCHOOL.

In a small building erected on the town-site by Ed. Wilkins, the first Woodstock school was organized in the fall of 1881. This temporary home was vacated the following year when a school house, 24x40 feet, was completed. To erect the building the district issued bonds to the amount of \$1200. An addition of the same dimensions as the original was made in 1888.¹³ The present substantial two-story, four room school building was erected in 1901 and cost complete \$7000. Of this amount \$6000 were secured from a bond issue, authorized March 13, 1901, by a vote of 107 to 12. The first term of school in the new building was conducted by Frank O'Neill, principal, and the Misses Dixon and Morton.

THE CHURCHES.

Many of the first settlers of Burke township were Catholics and the first church organized in Woodstock was of that denomination. Soon after the founding of the town St. Martin's church was organized and a house of worship erected. In 1906 the church home was enlarged. A parochial school was established in 1909 by Rev. Joseph Zahner, in which seventy-two pupils were enrolled the first year.

Presbyterian services were first held in Woodstock in January, 1884, conducted by Rev. Charles Thayer, of Pipestone. A few months later provision was made for holding services every second Sunday, and the interest awakened resulted in the formation of a church society January 4, 1885, under the direction of Rev. Charles Thayer and Rev. G. F. McAfee, synodical

missionary for Minnesota. The following were the first members of the Woodstock Presbyterian church: Alice Ellithorpe, Ada Smiley, Adeline Wilkins, Adeline C. Miller, William A. McHendrie, E. C. Hinde, E. S. Wheeler, Mrs. E. L. Wheeler, Edwin VanWalker, Sarah A. VanWalker, Lydia Welch and Emma L. Ware.

The first Presbyterian church of Woodstock was incorporated February 16, 1885, with the following trustees: M. W. Ware, George C. Eyland, Jr., D. M. Fyffe, E. S. Wheeler and Charles Lindsay. The first elders of the church, elected March 15, were Edwin VanWalker and Charles W. Welch. In April, 1885, the church was admitted to membership to the Mankato Presbytery. The church home was dedicated free of debt June 13, 1886.¹⁴

At one time the Methodists maintained a church organization in Woodstock, but in late years they have discontinued the holding of regular services. The society was organized in the early nineties by Rev. Arminius Davis, and in 1893 a church edifice was erected under the pastorate of Rev. J. W. Hawk. The church was dedicated June 7, 1896.

A German Lutheran society, ministered to by the Pipestone pastor, holds services at regular intervals in the Methodist church building.

THE LODGES.

The veterans of the civil war residing in Woodstock and vicinity have maintained an organization of the Grand Army of the Republic for more than a quarter of a century. Stephen Miller Post No. 139 was organized on the evening of May 21, 1885, at which time twenty-two com-

¹³The corner built on the old building now forms the corner of the church. The day's store John Hoag, the first merchant dealer, came into possession of the corner position.

¹⁴During the first five years of its life the Presbyterian church was without regular pastors being supplied from other churches. The

regularly installed pastors have been as follows: J. H. Long (1890-91), William Lattimore (1891-94), J. S. Surbeck (1894-97), A. H. Temple (1897-98), W. H. McHenry (1898-99), T. D. Whittles (1899-00), D. VanWagoner (1900-04), Robert H. Hood (1904), W. H. Woods (1906-07), D. Bell (1908-09), Henry Snyder (1909-10).

rades were mustered in.¹⁵ The post was named in honor of Ex-Governor Stephen Miller, Minnesota's chief executive during the closing days of the civil war. A Woman's Relief Corps, No. 5, was granted a charter of organization February 28, 1898.¹⁶

Woodstock Camp No. 3587, Modern Woodmen of America, was organized February 15, 1896.¹⁷ Its auxiliary, Arbor Camp No. 252, Royal Neighbors of America, also maintains an active organization.

Woodstock Lodge No. 99, Ancient Order of United Workmen, was organized in 1885.

The youngest secret society in the village is Woodstock Homestead No. 1457, Brotherhood of American Yeomen, which was organized August 25, 1909, with fourteen charter members.

THE BANK.

The history of Woodstock's one bank dates from 1883. Early in the fall of that year the Bank of Woodstock, a private concern, was established by the firm of Sampson & French and placed under the management of George C. Eyland, Jr. The institution was incorporated under the state banking laws December 24, 1885, with a capital stock of \$25,000, by John C. French, Joseph Sampson and George C. Eyland, Jr. During the financial panic of later years the firm of Sampson & French failed and the affairs of the bank were straightened out by G. H. Perry, the receiver. The bank was resuscitated by R. W. Green and others as a private

bank, and in January, 1900, it was incorporated as a state bank with a capital stock of \$10,000 and with the following officers: Teunis Prins, president; E. W. Davies, vice president; R. W. Green, cashier. Two years later the capital was increased to \$20,000. In February, 1903, R. W. Green disposed of his interest in the bank of E. W. Davies, F. L. Janes, C. E. Dinehart, F. D. Week, O. P. Miller, M. A. Cox and F. B. Parker, and James Jackson became the cashier and local manager. Early in 1905 the institution was reorganized as the First National Bank of Woodstock, capitalized at \$25,000, by the following incorporators: E. W. Davies, O. P. Miller, F. D. Bennett, Fred Bloom, James Jackson and others. The present officers are E. W. Davies, president; James Jackson, vice president and cashier; E. W. Davies, F. L. Janes, James Jackson, William Doms and B. F. Warren, directors.

TROSKY.

Of the seven incorporated municipalities of Pipestone county, Trosky is the least populous, the late census giving it a population of 181 people. It is a station on the Ellsworth-Watertown extension of the Rock Island railroad, seven miles southeast of Pipestone. The platted portion of Trosky is on section 21, Elmer township. It is the center of a limited but productive agricultural region and has the distinction of being one of the best grain markets of the county. It is a compactly built, neat appearing little village.

¹⁵The first members of Stephen Miller Post were James Shields, H. C. Stanley, James Gillan, C. W. Sargent, J. R. Howe, Ed. Wilkins, B. H. Conrad, R. Atkins, Fred Bloom, Michael Boland, S. N. Phelps, James Hendren, Ludwig Doms, David Deits, Benjamin Svennes, C. W. Welch, O. A. Barrows, W. N. Luce, J. W. Shadbott, P. Mulligan, C. S. Cutting and J. W. Parshall.

¹⁶With the following members: Mrs. A. F. Wilkins, Carrie Jacobs, Clara Bloom, Barbara Bloom, Mrs. M. Soules, Emma Soules, Rose

Soules, Minnie Soules, Ellen E. Larne, Sarah Deits, Mrs. B. Hogan, Mrs. J. Hendren, Agnes Hendren, Eva Wilkins, Ethel Wilkins, Emma Wilkins, Mrs. S. C. Cutting, Florence Shields and Clara Sargent.

¹⁷The charter members of Woodstock Camp were C. H. Baxter, F. D. Bennett, J. B. Butts, Joe Casey, John Gluesing, Frank Metlick, T. E. Nash, F. Quarton, George Quarton, John Shepard, George Shields, T. R. Stewart, C. E. Walling, H. J. Walter, C. W. White.

Trosky came into existence as a direct result of the building of the Burlington (now the Rock Island) railroad in 1884. The track was completed to the site of the future village in September and regular train service was established the next month. The road was built through a territory that was rapidly filling with settlers, and the people of southern Pipestone county and northern Rock county heartily welcomed the new road, for with it came the possibilities of new towns and nearer markets.

The work of platting and developing the new townsites along the Burlington extension was done by the Cedar Rapids, Iowa Falls & Northwestern Land & Town Lot company, a corporation in close affiliation with the railroad company. The building of only one town on the line between Luverne and Pipestone entered into the original plans of the promoters, although two sites for stations were selected so early as September, 1884. One of these was at a point two miles north of Poplar creek in Pipestone county,¹⁸ where later Trosky was built, and the other was on the northwest quarter of section 26, Denver township, in Rock county. For awhile there was uncertainty as to which of the two counties was to be favored with the new town and much unreliable information was circulated concerning the choice, the people of northern Rock county petitioning to have the village founded at some point in Rock county.¹⁹ Before the close of September the town lot company began the work of founding the village on Pipestone county soil. The building of a town at the station in Denver

township was not entirely abandoned, however, and in the course of a few years the village of Hardwick took its place on the map.

The Trosky townsite was surveyed September 23, 1884, by LeRoy Grant, and the dedication was made October 3 by S. L. Dows, president, and James B. Close, secretary, of the Cedar Rapids, Iowa Falls & Northwestern Land & Town Lot company.²⁰ Fifteen blocks were included within the original plat. The land on which the site was located was originally the property of Close Bros. & Co. and at the time was farmed by J. A. Griffin.

Although the plat was not surveyed until late in the year, several business houses were established before its close. The first building erected on the site was a little shack put up by M. Hackett, a one-legged man from near Spirit Lake, who opened a "blind pig" and sold his wares to the railroad workers. The initial business institution was short lived. A side track was laid at the new station October 10 and a box car stationed there to answer the purpose of a temporary depot. The same day the side track was laid carpenters in the employ of Ezra Rice, the Luverne grain dealer, began erecting a warehouse, and on the fifteenth of the month Mr. Rice's representative, Ed. Bane, began buying grain. In October, also, Carman & Hornby erected a small office building and engaged in the lumber business, later dealing in fuel also. In December O. C. Ihlan moved from Eden township and began the erection of a store building. Before the year was completed Finch & Hayward erected a second grain ware-

¹⁸"A station, not yet named, has been located between Luverne and Pipestone, at a point about two miles north of Poplar creek, in Pipestone county."—Rock County Herald, September 12, 1884.

¹⁹"It is stated on the authority of Mr. Ellsworth, of the Burlington town lot company, that the choice of a townsite on Poplar creek, in Pipestone county, is not so fully determined but that it may yet be changed, and efforts

are being made to have a town located on this side of the county line at some point nearly midway between Luverne and Pipestone. This, it is understood, would be more satisfactory to the northern part of the county and is especially desired by the people of Rose Dell and Springwater townships."—Rock County Herald, September 19, 1884.

²⁰The name was given by the town lot company but the derivation is unknown.

house and the railroad company put up a depot and installed M. E. Phillips as agent.

Activity in the new town continued during the winter months, and the year 1885 witnessed the founding of several new enterprises. Early in January the postoffice was opened with L. G. Jones as postmaster.²¹ Phillips & Chapin engaged in the hardware and implement business in February and completed their store building in April. O. C. Ihlan moved his family to the new town during the winter and became the first established resident. About the first of March the firm of Ihlan & Olson opened the first general merchandise store, and the same month L. J. Pooler was granted license to operate a saloon. The pioneer saloon keeper was not long in possession of an unopposed field, for in September three saloons were in operation, Ralph Jaybush having established the second and Olson & Faegre the third. Full & Adams engaged in the general merchandise business and erected a 22x40 feet building. Arne Nelson put up a little building and opened a blacksmith shop. A hotel (on the site of the Hansen store building) was opened the first week in November by B. F. Smith, who sold out within a short time to William Denhart, who had succeeded Carman & Hornby in the lumber and coal business.

There were a number of important business changes and a few additions during 1886. The pioneer merchants, Ihlan & Olson, dissolved partnership in April and

O. C. Ihlan continued the business. During the same season Wilbur Shippey succeeded to the hardware business of M. E. Phillips. A bank was founded by J. C. Jonas, but had only a short life. William Denhart sold the hotel property to Dr. W. N. Hake, a veterinarian, who took charge of the hostelry. In the fall J. W. Thomas erected a store building and engaged in the general merchandise business.

During the next few years there was little advancement in Trosky. The first two years of its growth had brought the village to a point sufficient to take care of the trade of the surrounding country, and beyond that point it did not go until the country from which it drew support had further developed. In 1890 the townsite was purchased by L. P. Kenyon, of Rock Rapids, Iowa, and that gentleman undertook the task of building up the town. There was notable progress in the matter of building improvements during 1891. That year brought the building of the extension of the Rock Island road to the pink quarries near Jasper, which event added somewhat to the importance of the little village.

The year of greatest growth was 1893 and the advancement was brought about largely through the efforts of the townsite proprietor, who was busily engaged in the sale of town lots from early in the spring until late in the fall.²² Both public and private improvements were under way the entire year. Several business blocks were erected and a number of important

²¹"Mr. Jones was postmaster of Trosky one year and was succeeded by Wilbur Shippey. Benjamin Wheeler was next in charge of the office, giving way in 1894 to John Frahm. The postmaster from 1898 to 1907 was Charles French. Upon his retirement his daughter, Orpha French, received the commission and has since held the office.

²²"L. P. Kenyon stopped off in Luverne Wednesday on his return from Trosky to Rock Rapids. Mr. Kenyon bought the section on which Trosky is located some time ago and the investment proved to be a very profitable one. He has already sold 150 lots and was

offered \$9000 a few days ago for a half interest in the remainder of the section."—Rock County Herald, March 17, 1893.

"Last week L. P. Kenyon sold thirteen lots in Trosky and has about completed contracts for the sale of twenty more. It seems that real estate in Trosky is in greater demand than wheat or any other property, notwithstanding the hard times. A town where lots will sell at the present time must have a bright future and will make an important business center. There is no safer place to make investments in property or business enterprises than in Trosky."—Trosky Advertiser, August, 1893.

enterprises established, among them a state bank with a capital of \$25,000 and a newspaper, the Trosky Advertiser. In the spring the village was incorporated and the first law-making body undertook several municipal improvements. The streets were graded, sidewalks were built, trees were set out, and a spirit of enterprise prevailed. A business directory of the town, published November 23, 1893, showed the following:

E. E. Brintnall, cashier State Bank of Trosky.

O. C. Ihlan, general merchandise.

Henry Denhart & Son, general merchandise.

Henry Kroll, hotel.

Dr. W. N. Hake, drug store.

Henry Ewoldt, lumber and fuel.

Charles Neffeler, meat market.

Rogers Bros., livery barn.

Taggeart & Goos, livery barn.

H. E. Grubb, harness shop.

Arne Nelson, blacksmith shop.

John Frahm, saloon.

L. Polmateer, railroad and express agent.

The first step toward securing incorporation for Trosky was taken at a meeting of the citizens held at the village hall on the evening of April 18, 1893. M. E. Templar, H. E. Denhart and O. C. Ihlan were appointed a committee to take a census of the territory proposed to be incorporated, and E. E. Brintnall was chosen to draft a petition. This document, addressed to the board of county commissioners, was given favorable action May 1. The tenth of June was the date set to vote on the incorporation question, and E. E. Brintnall, H. E. Denhart and Henry Ewoldt were named inspectors of the election. Thirty-six ballots were cast and the

vote was unanimous in favor of incorporation. The election to choose the first village officers was held September 11, and a week later the village government was in force.²³ Those who have been elected to office under the Trosky village government are as follows:²⁴

1893—President, J. C. Jonas; trustees, Henry Ewoldt, H. L. Grubb, Arne Nelson; recorder, M. E. Templar;²⁵ treasurer, E. E. Brintnall; justices, H. E. Denhart, O. C. Ihlan; constables, Charles Klein, Henry Kroll.

1894—President, J. C. Jonas; trustees, Henry Ewoldt, O. C. Ihlan, John Frahm; recorder, Q. E. Kiester; treasurer, W. N. Hake; justices, H. E. Denhart, J. W. Anderson; constables, John Rogers, H. A. Griffin.

1895—President, B. F. Wheeler; trustees, Henry Ewoldt, O. C. Ihlan, Arne Nelson; recorder, Q. E. Kiester; treasurer, W. N. Hake; justice, H. E. Denhart; constable, A. C. Wheeler.

1896—President, L. P. Kenyon; trustees, H. E. Denhart, O. C. Ihlan, Charles Klein; recorder, L. Polmateer; treasurer, Henry Ewoldt; justice, J. W. Anderson; constable, A. C. Wheeler.

1897—President, L. P. Kenyon; trustees, H. E. Denhart, F. Kurz, B. F. Wheeler; recorder, L. Polmateer; treasurer, Henry Ewoldt; justices, J. W. Anderson, H. A. Griffin; constables, John H. Nath, John Frahm.

1898—President, B. F. Wheeler; trustees, H. E. Denhart, H. R. Johnson, Charles French; recorder, L. Polmateer; treasurer, Henry Ewoldt; justices, J. W. Anderson, L. P. Kenyon; constables, M. J. Geary, O. C. Ihlan.

1899—President, Q. E. Kiester; trustees, Charles French, O. C. Ihlan, H. R. Johnson; recorder, L. Polmateer; treasurer, Henry Ewoldt; justices, John Frahm, F. Kurz; constables, T. C. Short, William French.

1900—President, Q. E. Kiester; trustees, H. R. Johnson, L. P. Kenyon, Charles Gottlob; recorder, L. Polmateer;²⁶ treasurer, Henry Ewoldt; assessor, W. Bartholomew; justice, H. E. Denhart; constables, John Rogers, W. A. Heck.

1901—President, Q. E. Kiester; trustees,

1896—For, 31; against, 14.

1897—For, 9; against, 16.

1898—For, 9; against, 11.

1899—For, 9; against, 19.

1900—Against license by 3 majority.

1901—For, 24; against, 16.

1902—For, 29; against, 11.

1903—License by 10 majority.

²³Resigned in December, 1893, and was succeeded by Q. E. Kiester.

²⁴Resigned August 6 and was succeeded by John Frahm.

²⁵Trosky was separated from Elmer township as a voting and assessment precinct as the result of a special election held April 27, 1900, at which fifteen votes were cast, all favorable to separation.

²⁶During five years of its corporate history Trosky was a "dry" town, the license question having been submitted under the local option law each year from 1894 to 1903, inclusive. Since the last named year license has regularly been granted. The vote on the question when it was submitted to the electors was as follows:

1894—License carried.

1895—For, 19; against, 24.



SCENES AT TROSKY

Charles Gottlob, O. C. Ihlan, W. A. Heck;²⁷ recorder, T. W. Christopher; treasurer, Henry Ewoldt; assessor, F. Kurz; justices, H. E. Denhart, J. W. Anderson; constables, William French, Joseph Holdimann.

1902—President, Q. E. Kiester; trustees, O. C. Ihlan, John Frahm, Charles Gottlob; recorder, T. W. Christopher;²⁸ treasurer, Henry Ewoldt; assessor, J. W. Anderson; justice, C. Griffin; constable, Arthur Coon.

1903—President, Charles French; trustees, J. T. Chaney, H. A. Griffin, H. R. Johnson; recorder, B. A. Kettleson; treasurer, Henry Ewoldt; assessor, J. W. Anderson; justice, J. W. Anderson; constable, James Bennett.

1904—President, Charles French; trustees, J. T. Chaney, W. W. Falkner, H. R. Johnson; recorder, S. T. Marshall;²⁹ treasurer, Henry Ewoldt; assessor, Q. E. Kiester; justice, D. Thornberg; constables, J. J. Brockerman, H. A. Griffin.

1905—President, Charles French; trustees, J. T. Chaney, W. W. Falkner, H. R. Johnson; recorder, E. J. Feldman; treasurer, Henry Ewoldt; justices, Q. E. Kiester, James Bennett; constable, Ira Goodrich.

1906—President, Charles French; trustees, H. R. Johnson, W. W. Falkner, J. T. Chaney; recorder, E. J. Feldman; treasurer, Henry Ewoldt; assessor, Frank O'Hearn; justice, J. C. Mitchell; constables, Elmer Fields, Ira Goodrich.

1907—President, Charles French; trustees, H. A. Griffin, J. T. Chaney, Barney Heying; recorder, E. J. Feldman; treasurer, Henry Ewoldt.

1908—President, Q. E. Kiester; trustees, H. A. Griffin, H. R. Johnson, J. T. Chaney; recorder, E. J. Feldman; treasurer, Henry Ewoldt; justices, J. C. Mitchell, J. M. Arend; constables, Ira Goodrich, O. C. Ihlan.

1909—President, Q. E. Kiester; trustees, H. R. Johnson, H. J. Hansen, H. A. Griffin; recorder, E. J. Feldman; treasurer, Henry Ewoldt;³⁰ assessor, Louis Nelson; justice, J. M. Arend; constable, C. J. Walters.

1910—President, Q. E. Kiester; trustees, H. R. Johnson, H. J. Hansen, H. A. Griffin; recorder, E. J. Feldman; treasurer, W. W. Falkner;³¹ justice, H. W. Foote; constable, A. M. Hansen.

1911—President, Q. E. Kiester; trustees, H. A. Griffin, Charles French, H. W. Foote; recorder, M. Kallemeyn; treasurer, Charles Gottlob; assessor, Louis Nelson; justice, J. A. Rogers; constables, Hans Klinker, D. Kallemeyn.

Following the few years of upbuilding connected with its early history, the growth of Trosky has not been great. The census of 1900 gave the village a population of 215 and that of five years later showed a population of 206. In 1910 there were 181 people living within the corporate limits of the town.

Trosky has had two fires in its history. The first of these came in the morning of March 14, 1903, when four buildings in the business part of town were destroyed, bringing a loss of about \$6000. The conflagration originated in the Johannsen saloon and before the flames could be checked the saloon building, postoffice building occupied by Charles French, the barber shop of Guy Coon and Walter Morgan's blacksmith shop were entirely destroyed. The burnt district was rebuilt, but two years later, early in the morning of June 23, 1905, the same area was again burned over. Four buildings, a saloon, billiard hall, barber shop and blacksmith shop, were consumed.

THE SCHOOL.

Until 1887 the school population of Trosky was accommodated at the school in the Kurz neighborhood, one mile west of town. In the year mentioned a one-room school building was erected in the village, and there Harry Denhart taught the first village school. The early day building was supplanted by the present neat and substantial two-room structure, which was erected in the fall of 1909 at a cost of \$4400. Of this sum \$2400 was realized from a bond issue and the balance came from an accumulated building fund in the district treasury.

²⁷Resigned September 9 and was succeeded by Ed. Barnard, who also resigned a short time later.

²⁸Resigned April 17, 1902, on account of removal from the village and was succeeded by L. R. Lewis. Mr. Lewis resigned October 6, 1902, and was succeeded by B. A. Kettleson.

²⁹Resigned in December, 1904, and was succeeded by E. J. Feldman.

³⁰Resigned November 1, 1909, and was succeeded by Louis Nelson.

³¹Succeeded September 5, 1910, by Charles Gottlob.

THE CHURCH.

The Methodist is the only church society in Trosky. The church home, 26x40 feet in size, was dedicated Sunday, October 24, 1897, by Presiding Elder Hanscom. The building cost about \$1500. Rev. L. E. Shanks was the pastor at the time of building. The board of trustees, under whose direction the church was built, was composed of D. J. Denhart, A. J. Lowry, F. Kurz, William Johnson, J. N. Stuart and B. F. Wheeler.

THE LODGES.

Trosky Lodge No. 213, Independent Order Odd Fellows, was instituted November 17, 1893, with nine charter members, who had formerly been affiliated with Hope Lodge of Pipestone.³² At the time of organization eight new members were received.

Golden Rule Lodge No. 81, Rebekahs, was instituted February 10, 1898, with an initial membership of twenty-nine.³³

Trosky Camp No. 3850, Modern Woodmen of America, commenced its existence May 6, 1896, with sixteen charter members.³⁴

Wild Rose Camp, Royal Neighbors of America, was organized November 2, 1908, by Mrs. T. W. Clayton, district deputy, with eighteen charter members.³⁵

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

One Watrous engine, a hose cart and 1000 feet of hose constitute the fire fighting equipment of the Trosky fire department. The department was organized April 13, 1908, when thirteen volunteers

were enrolled. H. A. Griffin was chosen chief at that time and has since served in that capacity.

THE BANK.

Trosky's first banking institution was in operation three years. It was known as the Trosky State Bank, was incorporated for \$27,000, and began business in February, 1893, with the following officers and directors: C. J. Sieh, president; E. E. Brintnall, cashier; A. J. Sieh, E. C. Brown and C. H. Brintnall. Other stockholders were J. C. Jonas, Henry Ewoldt, D. J. Hawley and L. A. Worth. The bank discontinued business in December, 1895.

After a lapse of five years Trosky was again the home of a banking house. A private bank was established in April, 1901, by interests connected with the First National Bank of Pipestone. W. C. Briggs was made president, and Fred Hanson, as assistant cashier, became the manager. A change in the control occurred January 1, 1903, when J. C. Marshall and his son, Samuel J. Marshall, became the principal owners and the latter took charge of the institution. The Marshalls sold to E. J. Feldman in 1905. On March 13, 1908, the bank was reorganized as the Citizens State Bank of Trosky with a capital stock of \$10,000. The first board of directors was composed of E. J. Feldman, Henry Ewoldt, Q. E. Kiester, Charles Gottlob and D. J. Denhart.

³²The charter members of Trosky Lodge were as follows: Charles French, noble grand; L. G. Jones, vice grand; Harry E. Denhart, secretary; L. Polmateer, treasurer; H. A. Griffin, C. E. Griffin, J. R. Johnson, J. C. Jonas and J. A. Griffin.

³³The first officers of Golden Rule Lodge were Mrs. H. E. Denhart, Mrs. Charles French, Molly Cooley, May Anderson, Emma French, Miss Stahl, Mrs. J. A. Griffin, Nellie Griffin, Mrs. B. F. Wheeler, Mrs. Emma Polmateer, Mrs. Gertrude Kenyon, Mrs. Gertrude Denhart, Mrs. H. R. Johnson and Blanche Bassett.

³⁴The charter members were H. E. Denhart, W. C. Evarts, Henry Ewoldt, C. H. Fields, Charles French, William French, M. J. Geary, H. R. Johnson, J. C. Jonas, L. G. Jones, Q. E. Kiester, R. A. Rogers, C. O. Solberg, L. T. Stewart, W. S. Stewart and B. F. Wheeler.

³⁵The first officers of Wild Rose Camp were Mrs. Hattie Jones, Mrs. Martha Feldman, Mrs. Eva Wohlford, Mrs. Alzina Denmore, Mrs. Ella Nilson, Mrs. Alta Falkner, Mrs. Melissa French, Mrs. Othilie Hansen, Mrs. Trena Foote, Mrs. Luella Maynard, E. J. Feldman, Mrs. Dacy Denhart and Mrs. Pearl Wohlford.

CHAPTER XXIX.

HATFIELD, IHLEN, CAZENOVIA, AIRLIE, CRESSON, LUCTOR, ETC.

WITHIN the limits of Pipestone county are a half dozen or more little villages that have not shared to the same extent as the larger, incorporated places in the process of development. Nevertheless, these hamlets, usually located between two more important centers, have a place in the order of things and serve as markets for grain and convenient trading points for territories that would otherwise be longer distances from these accommodations.

HATFIELD.

On the Milwaukee railroad, seven miles southeast of Pipestone, is Hatfield, a village containing a postoffice, one or two stores, a school and a church. It is in the exact center of section 25, Grange township. The village was one of the first established in the county, and it has a history extending over a period of nearly thirty-two years.

Hatfield was established as a station on the Southern Minnesota railroad (now the Milwaukee) late in 1879,¹ at the time the

road was being constructed through Pipestone county. The place came by its name quite by accident. It is said that the grading crew at work in the vicinity of the proposed station encountered unusually windy weather during its stay there. One member of the party, having been several times obliged to pursue his hat into the adjoining fields, was seized with an inspiration, and, perhaps to perpetuate the memory of the incident, announced that for want of a better name Hatfield would suffice for the new station.

The beginnings of a town were made in 1880, the first improvement being a windmill.² A side track was laid late in August, and the initial building improvement followed soon after. The Colman Lumber company established a lumber yard, and a grain warehouse was put up by Bonner & Hyde, who bought grain that fall. In November a store building graced the site, erected by I. N. Converse, who started a general store. Soon after the postoffice was established with Mr. Converse as postmaster.³

¹"Hatfield is the name of a new station seven miles east of here that has just been laid out by the railroad company." *Pipestone County Star*, December 5, 1879.

²Hatfield, as it was in the spring of 1880, was described by the *Rock County Herald* in its issue of April 23: "One swallow does not make a summer, but one windmill, it appears, is enough to make a town. At least, that is the case on the Southern Minnesota about midway between Pipestone and Edgerton. The place

has been christened Hatfield, and, although its only semblance to a town is the rather metropolitan aspect of its windmill aforesaid, there are vast possibilities susceptible of development, and we see no reason why it shouldn't become a great commercial center."

³Among those who have served as postmaster of Hatfield are I. N. Converse, William D. Peck, Elizabeth C. Thompson, J. W. Smiley, William Lockwood, L. J. Clayton and Edward Zimmerman.

In the years that have elapsed since Hatfield was given a place on the map, the village has only slightly outgrown its original proportions. The townsite, made to consist of thirteen blocks, was surveyed November 6, 1882, by George B. Woodworth. Three years later, on December 3, 1885, the plat was dedicated by Samuel H. Graves, acting for the land firm of Close Bros. & Co. In 1883 Close Bros. & Co. threatened to establish headquarters at Hatfield, instead of at Pipestone, but this did not eventuate, the people of Pipestone granting certain concessions demanded by the land company.

A school house was built in Hatfield in 1882. William D. Peck at an early date bought out the one general store and was for many years its proprietor. The Milwaukee company erected a serviceable depot in October, 1885, and installed Mr. Perrigo as agent. Several attempts to force a boom in the little hamlet have proved ineffectual. During the years of heavy immigration to the county in the early nineties the village became a place of some little importance as a receiving point for the new settlers' effects and as a lumber market. Close Bros. & Co. transferred the townsite to William Lockwood in December, 1898, and through the energy of the new proprietor there was a small increase in the village. A new store building was put up and there were several other building improvements. A Methodist church was erected at a cost of \$1500 and was dedicated October 26, 1902.

On several occasions Hatfield has experienced loss by fire. On the night of August 14, 1908, the store building of L. J. Clayton, occupied also by the postoffice, was totally destroyed, bringing a loss of over \$3000. The Milwaukee depot was reduced to ashes on Sunday, July 31, 1910. For a time there was danger of a more

extensive conflagration by the spread of the flying embers from the burning building, but this was avoided through the efforts of the fire fighters.

IHLEN.

On the line of the Great Northern railroad, between Pipestone and Jasper, on section 9, Eden township, is Ihlen, a little hamlet of prosperous appearance. As a grain market it is excelled by few of the more pretentious county towns. There are three elevators, several well-stocked stores, a bank, shops, a good school and a Norwegian Lutheran church. For its size the town is a lively business center and derives its support from a favored farming region.

The founding of Ihlen came to pass as the result of the building of the Willmar & Sioux Falls railroad through Pipestone county in 1888, and was one of four stations that were located by this agency within the county. The townsite promoters, early in May, 1888, arranged with Carl Ihlen, of Eden township, to plant a town on his land, which was named in his honor. Soon after, on July 3, the plat was surveyed by Alfred S. Tee, the county surveyor, and on the last day of the same month it was dedicated by W. H. Sherman, of the firm of Moore & Sherman. The plat was divided into eight blocks. Streets running north and south were named Mabel, Jessica, Holman and Judd, and those intersecting, Bertha, Sherman and Waldo. In August railroad graders laid out depot grounds and built a side track.

Ihlen was slow in developing, and its growth into the substantial little community of today is an event of the past dozen years. A postoffice was established in March, 1889, at the home of Carl

Ihlen.⁴ A general store was established in June, 1892, by John Olson, of Iowa, who placed N. H. Braham in charge. Two years later there was further increase in the business enterprises. Albert Olson opened a hardware store in March, 1894, and operated it a little more than a year. Toresdahl & Ware engaged in the general merchandise business in November, 1894, of which E. R. Larson was the manager.

Ihlen has been the home of a banking institution since November, 1904. The institution was promoted by representative men of the town and vicinity with L. L. Dale as prime mover and was opened for business with the following officers: Joseph Evenson, president; Chris Bauman, vice president; L. L. Dale, cashier. Two years later the controlling interest, which was held by Mr. Dale, was sold to M. C. Duea, who took the active management. The Bank of Ihlen, which before had been a private institution, was organized, as the State Bank of Ihlen May 2, 1908. The capital stock of \$10,000 was subscribed largely by residents of Ihlen and the surrounding country. The incorporators were M. C. Duea, R. H. O'Connell, E. W. Davies, R. G. Larson and L. L. Dale. The present officers and directors are R. H. O'Connell, president; R. G. Larson, vice president; Lillie O'Connell, assistant cashier; S. B. Duea and William F. Eikmeier.

CAZENOVIA.

Cazenovia is a little village boasting two mercantile establishments, hardware store, lumber yard, three elevators, a number of residences and a school house. While never achieving the proportions of any of the incorporated towns of the county, it has

prospered in its own sphere. It is a station on the Ellsworth-Watertown branch of the Rock Island railroad and is located on the northwest quarter of section 21, Troy township, very close to the center of the precinct.

Troy township was settled in an early day, and during the early eighties there was a big immigration to the precinct. The settlers in the southern and eastern portion found a convenient market in Pipestone, but those in the other portions of the township were a long distance from market and badly in need of just such a little trading center as Cazenovia later afforded. With the building of the Burlington railroad in 1884 came the promise of a station and a town.⁵ The railroad authorities early selected the site for a station, which was named Cazenovia, after the town of the same name in Madison county, New York.⁶ Before the close of the year 1884 a few buildings had been put up at the new station—the start of a new Pipestone county town. Early in the fall Ezra Rice, the Luverne grain dealer, erected a grain warehouse, which was opened for business November 28. The same month a side track was laid at the new station, and in November a depot was erected by the railroad company.

For a year there was little added to the town, but in the fall of 1885 came the erection of several buildings and the establishment of a few business enterprises. A large cleaning house and steam power elevator was erected in October by Kelsey & Gooding, of Watertown, Dakota, and later in the same month the town's first store building was completed. The pioneer merchants were Rank & Gates. The

⁴In 1890 the Ihlen postoffice was discontinued, or rather, was moved to a nearby farm and named Larson, in honor of the (then) postmaster. Later it was returned to the original location and rechristened Ihlen. An incomplete list of Ihlen's postmasters is as follows: Albert Olson, E. R. Larson, Joseph Evanson and Lewis Wilson, the present incumbent.

⁵"The people of Troy expect a station out that way on the Burlington road, and if they do not have a lively little village thereabouts before many years we shall be much surprised." Pipestone County Star, June 27, 1884.

⁶Many of the farmers in the vicinity had originally come from Madison county, New York, and it was at their suggestion that the station was named Cazenovia.

postoffice was established in October with Maurice O. Rank as postmaster.⁷ Before the close of the year a town hall and a few residences had been erected.

The growth of Cazenovia has not been great, and a quarter century of life has brought it to a point where it was originally intended it should be—a railroad station, grain market and little trading center. A town plat was surveyed in May, 1902. S. B. Howe was the surveyor and the work was done for William Kruse. At the time of platting an attempt was made to build up the town, and a few improvements were made.

One fraternal society is maintained in the little town. Cazenovia Camp No. 6289, Modern Woodmen of America, was instituted April 22, 1905, with an initial membership of about twenty.

AIRLIE.

Airlie is a hamlet of unpretentious proportions six and one-half miles west of Pipestone on the Milwaukee railroad. Founded at the time of the building of that road over thirty years ago, Airlie was saved to Pipestone county and Minnesota by a narrow margin. Had it been planted less than a mile further west, South Dakota would have claimed it. The business activities of the town are centered in a few elevators, a store, shops and a lumber yard.

⁷S. H. Loveland succeeded Mr. Rank as postmaster in July, 1886. Other postmasters have been E. A. Rice, L. A. Nims, L. Polmateer, W. E. Clouse and W. J. Lingler, the present incumbent, who was commissioned December 23, 1903.

⁸See W. H. Allen, writing in December, 1879, made the following early mention of the proposed Pipestone county colony town: "On the state line separating Minnesota from Dakota territory a town is being laid out and will soon be built up by the Dundee Land and Improvement company, who intend it for a Scotch colony. The town will be named Airlie, in honor of the earl of Airlie, of Scotland [president of the corporation]. In the coming spring they will begin to build dwellings, business houses, shops, churches and school houses."

⁹The name of the postoffice was changed from Cazenovia to Airlie in July, 1882. The office was

Great things were expected to result from this border town, and in imagery the promoters beheld a prosperous little city as a reward for proposed endeavor. The founding of the town, late in the year 1879, was the work of a Scotch land corporation, styled the Dundee Land and Improvement company, which was responsible for unsuccessful attempts to establish several exclusive Scotch colonies in southern Minnesota.⁸

As a matter of fact, the plans made on paper for the immediate building of a thriving town at Airlie were never reduced to substance; difficulty in even making a start was encountered. A grain warehouse was completed early in the spring of 1880, and in the course of the next few years a few other improvements were added to the initial one. Two stores were in operation in 1881, one of them conducted by John S. Edmons. A postoffice named Clausen was established at Airlie in August, 1881, with Mr. Edmons as postmaster.⁹ George Bailey opened a saloon in the little village in September, 1882, and John Paul established the first lumber yard in the fall of 1884.

The year of greatest progress in Airlie's history was 1885, when a number of substantial improvements were made.¹⁰ The Milwaukee company put up a depot, and a new elevator increased the grain handling facilities. The townsite, which had

discontinued from the fall of 1883 until December, 1884, when it was re-established with Ted Humble as postmaster. Among recent postmasters have been Walter Parks, Oscar Arnold, S. E. Ellingson and J. H. Crawford.

¹⁰"Airlie is on the improve and before the close of the present season quite a village will be established here. This week there will be a school meeting of the village to organize and make preparations for building a school house. A new store will soon be erected. The Milwaukee folks have promised to build a nice depot early in the spring, and during a visit last week Mr. Hyde, of the firm of Hodges & Hyde, grain buyers, assured the people that his firm would put up an elevator this season. It begins to look as though the 'Duke of Airlie' would have his wish of long ago granted. Airlie is bound to make a town."—Pipestone County Star, March 31, 1885.

been surveyed in 1882, was put on record by Samuel H. Graves, representing Close Bros. & Co. A school house was constructed in the fall of 1886.

A serious fire did much to hold Airlie in check. The fire fiend attacked the little village on the night of May 11, 1899, and wrought irreparable damage and nearly wiped out the town. The conflagration originated in the elevator of W. W. Cargill & Co., and, despite the heroic efforts of the citizens, the progress of the flames, fanned by a strong south wind, could not be stayed until several buildings were destroyed. The Cargill elevator, containing 12,000 bushels of wheat; the elevator of Walter Parks, containing 2500 bushels of grain; Mr. Park's barn, a blacksmith shop, a flat house and several sheds and storehouses were totally destroyed.

CRESSON.

Another place we have to consider is Cresson, a flag station on the Rock Island road in Altona township, which until a few years ago was known as Altoona. Cresson's only distinction lies in the fact that a grain elevator is maintained there.

Located five miles above Cazenovia, on the Rock Island line a short distance from the Dakota line, the beginnings of Altoona were made in the fall of 1885.¹¹ The Cedar Rapids, Iowa Falls & Northwestern Land & Town Lot company, the firm controlling the townsite privileges on the line of the Burlington extension at that time, bought a portion of the farm of Dan Thompson on the southwest quarter of section 36, of the fraction of Altona township, for townsite purposes in August,

1885. On September 15 the survey was made by LeRoy Grant, an engineer in the company's employ, and the dedication of the plat was made September 28 by S. L. Dows and W. G. Dows, president and secretary, respectively, of the townsite company. A town of large proportions was planned, and to accommodate immediate expansion fourteen blocks were included in the plat.

The first, and for a number of years the sole, enterprise of Altoona was a grain warehouse, erected by Ezra Rice late in the fall of 1885. The first general store was established in February, 1894. One year later, in February, 1895, Altoona postoffice was established with Alex McNaughton in charge. In later years both the store and postoffice were discontinued. At the present time an elevator is the only building that marks the site of Altoona, or Cresson, as the site and station is now named.

LUCTOR.

In southern Fountain Prairie township, five miles northwest of Holland, is a little inland hamlet, the center of a prosperous settlement of Hollanders. Luctor is the name of the place, which boasts a Dutch Reformed church and a store. Churchville was the name bestowed upon the little place, which first became known in April, 1889. The chief motive for the establishment of this community was the desire of the settlers to form a closer union in the practice of their religion. "The Dutch Reformed Church of Churchville." was organized at that time.¹² Ten acres of land were secured, upon which a house

¹¹"And now Pipestone county is to have another new town. It is located on the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 36, township 108, range 47, and is to be called Altoona. It is about five miles from Cazenovia. Dan Thompson is already putting in a side track and the Burlington railroad will build a depot before the snow flies. We have not learned how many stores and saloons will be opened there this winter, but if the bantling proposes to keep pace with its neighbors, between

now and spring it will be a flourishing business point."—Pipestone County Star, October 6, 1885.

¹²"There are very few of our people, possibly, who are aware that a new village has just been organized in this county, but such is a fact, nevertheless. The organization was effected on Monday last. The new village is located in Fountain Prairie township and its name is Churchville. Its residents are mostly Hollanders, consisting of about twenty-two families

of worship and a parsonage were erected. The board of the Reformed church in New York contributed \$500 to the building fund, and a like amount was donated by Close Bros. & Co. The house of worship was dedicated July 21, 1889, by Rev. W. Warrenhouse, of Alton, Iowa. The church developed into a strong organization and is still maintained.

Twelve years after the founding of the church, in the spring of 1901, a store was established across the road and at the same time a doctor settled in "New Chicago," as the hamlet became known after the addition of a business enterprise. Mr. Hoffkamp, formerly of Leota, Nobles county, was one of the early proprietors of the store. At the final christening, Luctor was the name adopted for the place. A postoffice was maintained at Luctor for a number of years, but it was discontinued November 30, 1905, and the former patrons have since received their mail by rural route.

OTHER PLACES.

Between Pipestone and Woodstock, on the Omaha railroad, six miles east of the former place, is an elevator, a side track and a sign board bearing the inscription "Eton." On the time tables of the railroad company the point is designated a station. The elevator and side track were built on section 11, Gray township, in the fall of 1895. Gray Siding was the name originally given the place, and in time this was shortened to Gray. In November, 1906, Eton became the official name.¹³ The change was made because of the confusion arising from the similarity in the names Gray and Gray, both stations on the

Omaha, the latter near Mankato. It was decided that one or the other must forfeit its name, and Gray was the loser in the lottery.

Three miles northeast of Pipestone, on the Great Northern railroad, is a side track and grain elevator. The site is not officially named. The track and elevator were built in the summer of 1905 by the New London Milling company, of Willmar.

The development of the pink quarries, three miles northeast of Jasper, in the early nineties brought about the founding of a village there. Late in 1890 a store building was put up, in which Archie True engaged in the general merchandise business. On January 24, 1891, a postoffice, named North Sioux Falls, was established with Mr. True as postmaster. Later in the same year the Burlington road was built from Trosky to the quarry, and about the same time the importance of the town was added to by the erection of a hotel building. Jasper suffered nothing by reason of this "rival town," whose existence in a few years was only a memory.

In the early days when towns and railroads were few and far between, many of the outlying communities of Pipestone county had inadequate mail facilities. To remedy this, a number of country post-offices, located on overland mail routes, were put in operation at one time or another.

One such was Meadow postoffice, established in January, 1878. It was just within Pipestone county, close to the southern boundary. After a few years, by a change of postmasters, the office was

who have been educated and are determined workers to the cause in which they have made their abode. They are a religious class of people and have already organized a church, which will be known as the Reformed church of Churchville."—Pipestone County Star, April 26, 1889.

¹³In "Origin of Place Names," published by the Northwestern Railroad company, is this

reference to the derivation of the name: "This place was at one time named Gray, but was changed to Eton, from a celebrated school in England, at which the Close brothers and Benson were educated. These gentlemen colonized many Englishmen in this county, and the people of this place wished to honor their memories by naming this place for their school."

moved across the boundary and became a Rock county institution.

In the southwestern part of Elmer township, about eight miles from Pipestone, was Ridge postoffice. It was established in the fall of 1878 and Frank A. Bishop was the first postmaster. The office was discontinued in July, 1883.

Converse postoffice, ten miles southeast of Pipestone, was created in July, 1879, and was in operation for a number of years.

Heath was the name of a country mail

distributory located in Fountain Prairie township, a short distance west of the present site of Luctor. The postoffice was transferred to Luctor during the nineties and was continued until the day of rural free delivery.

Near the north line of Pipestone county for many years a postoffice known as McVey was maintained. It was discontinued in May, 1896, the patrons thereafter receiving their mail from the Lake Benton office.

CHAPTER XXX.

DESCRIPTIVE.

PIPESTONE county is situated in southwestern Minnesota, adjoining South Dakota and separated from Iowa by only one county. Its boundaries are Lincoln county on the north, Murray county on the east, Rock county on the south, and Moody county, South Dakota, on the west. The county is rectangular in form, its dimensions being nineteen and one-quarter miles east and west by twenty-four miles north and south. It contains twelve congressional townships in addition to a strip of territory one and one-quarter miles wide by twenty-four miles long. The area is 463.27 square miles, or 296,493.51 acres, of which only 611.76 acres—less than one square mile—is water area.

Pipestone county lies on the western slope of the Coteau des Prairies, that great stretch of elevated prairie country which was the marvel of the explorers. A brief description of the Coteau may not be out of place here. Its length is about 200 miles, extending from the valley of the Red River of the North southeasterly to Spirit Lake, in Dickinson county, Iowa. Its summit is indicated by the headwaters of streams which flow easterly or westerly therefrom. The higher elevations are often marked by what might be called camel-back hills. These elevations are not continuous, but lift themselves occasionally

to show where the summit of the Coteau may be looked for, or where a spur thereof puts off. The width of the Coteau is from seventy-five to one hundred miles; the eastern slope from the summit is the shorter, the western the longer and more graceful and is composed of a finer, richer and more easily tilled soil. The eastern slope seems to have been more washed by its streams, and on its slope are many lakes; its soil is gravel or black mud. The western slope is free from lakes, is dry, rich upland prairie, with a fine soil of several feet in depth, underlaid with a boulder gravel, which seems to drain the surface. The streams are not deep down; they run over gravelly beds and are rapid. The general slope of the western side is about ten or twelve feet to the mile, and the slope throughout is uniform.

The Coteau des Prairies ranks among the wonders of the agricultural world. It is of the same geologic formation as the Downs in the south of England, the rich plains of Hungary, and the range of hills which reach down through the center of India, famous in all times for wealth of soil, beauty of contour and salubrious climate. The elevation of the Coteau is from 1500 to 2200 feet above sea level. It belongs to the cretaceous and semi-silicious formation, the marly soil of which

seems to have preserved it from denudation.

The western slope of the Coteau, about fifty miles in width, comprises Osceola and Lyon counties, in Iowa, the western part of Nobles, all of Pipestone and Rock and the western part of Lincoln counties, in Minnesota, and the eastern part of Moody, Brookings and Coddington and all of Deuel counties, in South Dakota.

The contour of the surface of Pipestone county is caused by the disposition of the drift, but in some parts it is dependent upon the underlying rock strata. The county is diversified in its eastern townships by long and broad swells, running about north and south. The central part is a level prairie. The broad valley of Flandreau creek, with an elevation of about 1600 feet, diagonally crosses the northwest corner. The elevated crest of the Coteau des Prairies cuts off diagonally the northeastern corner. There, principally in Aetna township, occurs the greatest unevenness of surface, as well as the greatest elevation, there being points on the ridge over 1900 feet above sea level.¹ The range of high land extending north-

west from the mounds of Rock county enters the southwestern part of Pipestone county and attains an elevation of over 1700 feet, the same rock causing it throughout. With exceptions noted, Pipestone county is emphatically and characteristically a prairie county, with no natural timber and few boulders.²

The average elevation of Pipestone county above sea level is 1715 feet, the estimated mean elevations of the several townships in feet being as follows: Aetna, 1825; Rock, 1800; Burke, 1700; Osborne, 1625; Fountain Prairie, 1840; Grange, 1775; Gray, 1740; Elmer, 1650; Altona, 1700; Troy, 1660; Sweet, 1660; Eden, 1650.³

The most wonderful of the works of nature in Pipestone county are the rock formations. Just north of the city of Pipestone and adjacent to the famous Pipestone quarries is a ledge of rock which runs nearly north and south for a distance of three miles. The ledge consists of layers of red quartzite that have a very low dip toward the east, so that the rock soon disappears under the prairie in that direction, but presents a nearly perpendic-

¹Of the formation in northeastern Pipestone county, Hon. Warren Upham has written (Minnesota Geological Survey, 1884), "The outer terminal moraine, formed at the border of the ice sheet of the last glacial epoch, when it reached its maximum extent, lies in the northeastern part of Pipestone county, which it enters from the southeast, in sections 12 and 13, Rock township, thence running northwest and passing into Lincoln county at the north side of sections 1 and 2, Fountain Prairie. The moraine here varies from one to two miles in width and forms the crest of the broad area of highland called the Coteau des Prairies. In northeastern Rock township and from section 35 to section 28, Aetna, it consists of very roughly and prominently hilly till, diversified by many knolls and short ridges, of no well-marked uniformity in trend, much in contrast with the smooth surface of till, in long, gentle slopes and swells, lying 100 to 150 feet below this moraine on each side. The till or boulder clay constituting the moraine seems to differ from the same deposit in the smooth tracts only in containing a very much larger proportion of boulders and pebbles, which on the morainic hill and ridges are commonly at least twenty times and often evidently more than a hundred times as plentiful as they average upon the ordinary moderately undulating areas of till. Many of the knolls and hillocks of this moraine in Aetna are very stony with rock fragments of all sizes up to five or six feet in diameter, most, however, not exceeding half this size. The water courses on the flanks of this massive,

knolly ridge are deep, steep-sided ravines; and sloughs and lakelets are rare. From the southern part of section 20, Aetna, the next three miles of this moraine northwesterly are less knolly than usual, but farther to the northwest it is as irregularly broken as in southern Aetna and northwestern Rock townships."

²The Minnesota Geological Survey has mapped Pipestone county as follows: One-half of Aetna and the northeastern corners of Rock and Fountain Prairie, hilly till; the rest of Aetna, Rock and Fountain Prairie, all of Altona, Burke and Osborne, one-half of Troy, nearly all of Grange, Gray and Elmer, smooth and undulating; all of Eden and Sweet, the southern part of Troy, and small parts of Grange, Gray and Elmer, Potsdam quartzite formation.

³The elevations of the several stations and other points along three of the lines of railway that traverse the county, as determined by the railway surveyors, are as follows:

Milwaukee—Chanarambie creek (water level, at last crossing west), 1521; Edgerton, 1550; Rock river, 1552; Hatfield, 1662; highest point on the road (three and one-half miles east of Pipestone), 1744; Pipestone, 1693. Pipestone creek (water level), 1577; Airlie, 1629.

Omaha—Murray—Pipestone county line (grade), 1839; Woodstock, 1822; Rock river (water level), 1645; Summit, 1785; Pipestone, 1715.

Rock Island—Poplar creek, 1646; creek crossing (just north of Trosky), 1694; summit of grade, 1784; Nichols, 1799; Pipestone, 1740.

ular escarpment toward the west, formed by the broken-off, heavy layers of the rock. The greatest height of the ledge is about twenty-five feet. The rock also gradually disappears under the prairie both toward the north and the south, the lower ground on the west of the escarpment slowly rising in those directions like the sides of a basin and coalescing with that on the east of the ledge. Here, before its channel was diverted by direction of the government, Pipestone creek passed over the ledge to the lower level in a perpendicular fall of about eighteen feet, forming Winnewissa falls. In the vicinity are a few dwarfed bur oaks and shrubs, the only natural timber existing in the county.⁴ This point is not the top of the Coteau des Prairies, as many writers have asserted, among others, George Catlin, the first white man to visit the site. The crest of the Coteau is several miles northeast, passing through Rock, Aetna and Fountain Prairie townships.

The rock of the ledge is exceedingly hard. It lies in layers of one, two and three feet thick and is separated by jointage planes into huge blocks of rectangular shape that lie often somewhat displaced or even thrown over entirely by the action of the frost. The rock in places is pinkish in color; in others it is blood-red. The pink rock is generally massive; when red it is more apt to be thin bedded.

Southward from the region of the quarry the land continues high, and in some instances there are ridges or long knolls of drift that are broad and evenly rounded over by a thin loam. In a few places in eastern Eden township there are outcrops of the rock in small areas, and westward along the Split Rock and its eastern tributaries appear the same rocky outcrops, but nowhere do they present the

perpendicular bluffs as at the Pipestone quarry. Outcrops of a continuation of the ledge appear frequently in northern Rock county and the ledge terminates in the wall of solid rock a little north of Luverne.

Close to the ledge near Pipestone is quarried the soft, red pipestone of history—the stone which has made the spot famous throughout the North American continent. Centuries ago, before white men knew of a western world, the stone was dug by the natives for their pipes. Today the stone is manufactured by red and white men into trinkets of all kinds.

Until recently the Indian red pipestone has never been used in the mechanic arts for any useful purpose. Now it is used in the manufacture of spark plugs for automobiles and is said to be the best material yet found for that purpose.

George Catlin, the first white man to visit the site and the first to have the stone analyzed, wrote of the substance and its location:

At the base of this wall, and running parallel to it, there is a level prairie of half a mile in width, in any and all parts of which the Indians procure the red stone for their pipes by digging through the soil and several slaty layers of the red stone to the depth of four or five feet. From the very numerous marks of ancient and modern digging, or excavations, it would appear that this place has been for many centuries resorted to for the red stone.

The red pipestone will, I suppose, take its place amongst interesting minerals; and the Coteau will become hereafter an important theme for geologists, not merely from the fact that it is the only known locality of that mineral, but from other phenomena relating to it. The single fact of such a table of quartz resting in perfect horizontal strata on this elevated plateau is of itself, as I conceive, a very interesting subject for investigation, and one which calls upon the scientific world for a correct theory in regard to the time when, and the manner in which, this formation was produced. That it is a secondary and sedimen-

⁴There is a little natural timber on the north east quarter of section 24, Osborne township. On the northeast quarter of section 27, Osborne township, on the left bank of Chanar-

ambie creek, at one time stood a cottonwood tree, twenty inches in diameter, which was cut down by beaver.

tary deposit, seems evident, and that it has withstood the force of the diluvial current, while the great valley of the Missouri from this very wall of rocks to the Rocky mountains has been excavated and its debris carried to the ocean, I confidently infer.

Joseph Nicolas Nicollet, who visited the site in 1838, opened a new quarry of the pipestone and examined the substance carefully. He wrote of the stone:

This red pipestone, not more interesting to the Indian than it is to the man of science, by its unique character, deserves a particular description. In the quarry of it which I had opened, the thickness of the bed is one foot and a half, the upper portion of which separates in thin slabs, whilst the lower ones are more compact. As a mineralogical species it may be described as follows: Compact; structure, slaty; receiving a dull polish; having a red streak; color, blood-red, with dots of a fainter shade of the same color; fracture, rough; sectile; feel, somewhat greasy; hardness, not yielding to the nail, not scratched by selenite, but easily by calcareous spar; specific gravity, 2.90. The acids have no action upon it; before the blowpipe it is infusible per se, but with borax gives a green glass.

Professor N. H. Winchell, of the Minnesota Geological Survey, had samples of the famous stone analyzed and described it from the standpoint of the geologist. He wrote in the publication of the Minnesota Geological Survey, 1884, as follows:

The real "pipestone quarry" is situated about a quarter of a mile west of this ledge and in the low land of the lower prairie. Earlier diggings seem to have been opened in the superficial outcroppings of the pipestone layer and to have followed along its strike north and south nearly a mile without penetrating very deeply into the rock. The layer which furnishes the pipestone is about eighteen inches thick and is embraced between heavy layers of the same rock as the ledge already described, and they all dip together toward the east, and of course run under the main escarpment. The present quarrying is a little east of the line of the old diggings, but follows along the strike of the formation the same as the other, the only difference being in having greater depth (the pipestone layer is about six feet under the ground here) and in the difficulties encountered in removing about five feet of very firm pinkish quartzite in heavy beds.

The pipestone or catlinite of the Pipestone quarry is a fine clay, varying in color from blood-red to pale red or pinkish, or

even to a pale yellowish red. The lighter colors fade into the darker, but sometimes the light appears in the red as round spots, on a polished surface, but the red is not thus distributed through the lighter shades. It has, of course, suffered all the metamorphic influences that the quartzite itself has, but it has not lost its distinctive bedded structure, which may be seen when examined microscopically in polished thin sections. Indeed, it seems to have a laminated structure, and the different shades of color appear sometimes to be due to openings and fissures produced in the red clay becoming filled with sediment of a lighter color. The following analyses have been made of this substance. It is not truly a mineral but an indurated clay, and its chemical composition varies in consequence. Analysis No. 1 shows the results obtained by Dr. C. T. Jackson from the sample procured by George Catlin in 1837. Nos. 2 and 3 were obtained by the writer (N. H. Winchell) in 1877 and were analyzed by S. F. Peckham. No. 2 was of a red color; No. 3 of a pinkish color:

	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3
Water.....	8.40	7.44	6.48
Silicia.....	48.20	57.43	58.25
Alumina.....	28.20	25.49	35.90
Magnesia.....	6.00
Peroxide of iron.....	5.00	8.70
" of manganese.....	.60
Lime.....	2.60
	99.00	99.51	100.63

Although this substance has usually a red color like that which prevails in the formation to which it pertains, it should be added that this redness suffers all the variations that it does in the quartzite. It passes nearly to white, through pink; it is intensified to brown, and in small patches it is deepened to lilac or lavender brown, becoming reddish purple. It is only with a loose application of the term that it can be styled gray, a color which is derived from a mixture of black and white, and which is applicable to the schists and quartzites of the northern part of the state pertaining to a lower geological horizon.

Close to the beautiful and romantic spot where the pipestone is quarried and a few rods from the base of the cliff lies a group of six stupendous boulders of gneiss, leaning against each other. These are composed chiefly of feldspar and mica of an exceedingly coarse grain, the feld-

spar often occurring in crystals of an inch in diameter. The three larger boulders are called the Three Maidens, from an Indian legend concerning them.⁵ Each of the three largest stones is about twenty feet long and twelve feet high. Another piece is about twenty feet long and eight feet high. Two other pieces, nine and twelve feet long, respectively, are four or five feet high. There is also a seventh fragment, about five feet in length.

These large stones evidently at one time constituted one immense boulder and have been separated from a falling apart, under the influence of frost, of the granite along its natural seams or joints. Geologists assert that the original boulder must have constituted the largest ice-transported block in Minnesota, making a mass from fifty to sixty feet in diameter. The pieces are all alike, and no other boulders of any kind are seen in the vicinity.⁶

The red quartzite is an excellent building stone and is quarried extensively where it outcrops at Jasper and Pipestone. The quarries at Pipestone are located just north of the city. All of the public buildings and most of the business blocks of the county seat city are built of the red stone secured there. In addition to supplying the home market, thousands of car loads have been shipped to St. Paul, Minneapolis, Duluth, Sioux City, Cedar Rapids, Kansas City, Omaha and other cities of the west.

This stone may be described as a metamorphic quartzite rock of intense hardness, colored by some chemical process of nature in various degrees of red, ranging from cherry to lavender or violet—the prevailing shades being those named—by the aid of ferric oxide, and disposed in strata from an inch to eighteen inches in thickness and of any surface area required in the erection of buildings, large or small. Vertical seams run through the quarry and are of great advantage in getting out the blocks, which can be worked into flagging or building stone.

Being the hardest of all building stone in use in this country, and of the color described, it is, of course, especially fitted for rustic styles of architecture, although where needed the highest and most enduring polish may be given it. When the stone is laid up in courses or in any tasteful way, it presents a wall of unrivaled beauty. It is practically proof against all deterioration from any ordinary source and stands fire equally well with any other stone.

The quarrying of building and paving stone is a more fully developed industry at Jasper than at Pipestone or any point in the red rock country and has been carried on since 1888. Several quarries are operated continuously at the village and in the vicinity and the output is considerable. Of the stone quarried at Jasper the Jasper Journal of August, 1899, said:

everywhere unbroken, which undoubtedly remains so at this time, except where I applied the hammer to obtain some small specimens, which I brought away with me."

⁵George Catlin thus described these boulders and told of the veneration in which they were held by the Indians: "Flat these immense blocks, of precisely the same character, and differing materially from all other specimens of boulders which I have seen in the great valleys of the Mississippi and Missouri, should have been hurled some hundreds of miles from their native bed and lodged in so singular a group on this elevated ridge, is truly matter of surprise for the scientific world, as well as for the poor Indian, whose superstitious veneration for them is such that not a spear of grass is broken or bent by his feet within three of four rods of the group; where he stops and in humble supplication, by throwing plugs of tobacco to them, solicits their permission (as the guardian spirit of the place) to dig and carry away the red stone for his pipes. The surface of the boulders I found in every part entire and unscratched by anything and even the moss was

"The fact alone that these blocks differ in character from all other specimens which I have seen in my travels, amongst the thousands of boulders which are strewn over the great valleys of the Missouri and Mississippi, from the Yellowstone almost to the gulf of Mexico, raises in my mind an unanswerable question as regards the location of their native bed and the means by which they have reached their isolated position like five brothers, leaning against and supporting each other, without the existence of another boulder of any description within fifty miles of them."—George Catlin in "North American Indians." [A large granite boulder is found on the southeast quarter of section 22, Osborne township.]

"The quarry lands contiguous to Jasper comprise more than a thousand acres, and from these quarries is produced stone varying in color from light gray to a dark red or blue, which is taken from the quarries in evenly stratified layers, varying in thickness from three inches to four feet, and often fifteen or more feet in length.

"The quarries at Jasper have the reputation of producing the hardest of known building stone in this country and is a much desired material for buildings where solidity, elegance and permanent color are sought. Strictly speaking, this stone is a jasper, being ninety-six per cent silica and four per cent iron. It is harder than granite or limestone, is not affected by acids, and is susceptible of the most beautiful and indestructible polish. In point of hardness this stone is superior to all others. A report of Professor Winchell, state geologist, gives jasper as being harder than feldspar and only three-tenths less than agate. It is capable of withstanding a pressure of 2500 pounds to the square inch. Another important item in its favor as a building stone is that it is not easily affected by heat. Heat which will crumble granite and softer stone has not perceptible effect upon it.

"The Jasper quarries also possess the advantage of lying close to the surface. After the removal of a very small amount of dirt a continuous wall of stone is exposed to view, which, after the quarry has been well opened, presents the appearance of a high wall of evenly hewn rocks piled layer upon layer, and apparently awaiting only the action of the crowbar and derrick to be transferred into the walls of cities. . . . It is evenly stratified and the strata lie almost level, and thus can be readily cloven into dimension stone with only the use of the drill and wedge. The layers vary in thickness from a few inches to four feet,

and some of the lower ones run very nearly fifty inches. The area of dimension stone taken from the heaviest strata is practically unlimited. Huge blocks, which measure sixteen feet in length, upwards of three feet in thickness, and probably four feet wide, solid throughout, and presenting without other dressing than the hammer a smooth surface, are quarried.

"The products of the quarries have supplied material for the construction of some of the finest business blocks, churches and residences of the towns and cities of the great middle west and northwest. No material has yet been found which serves the purpose of street paving so admirably as the paving blocks from these quarries, and there is scarcely a paved city of the west that has not purchased vast quantities of the stone for paving purposes."

While much space has been given to a description of the rock formations, it is not to be understood that Pipestone county is a rocky, sterile country. Such is not the case. In fact, the rock formations on the surface occupy a very limited area, and only a small portion of the county is unsuited to farm tillage because of the rock or from any other cause. The soil is stony so as to interfere with plowing only in small areas in the rolling tract which forms the crest of the Coteau in the northeastern part of the county. Even there the stony knolls are interspersed with fertile valleys and slopes. "With these exceptions," says the Minnesota Geological Survey, "these counties [Rock and Pipestone] are among the best in the state for all farming."

The soil is a rich black loam, from two to six feet deep, very fine and generally free from pebbles. The soil is among the richest in the world, abounding in those mineral and chemical qualities, such as



AT THE JASPER QUARRIES

magnesia, phosphates, etc., necessary for the prolific production of grain and grasses. The subsoil is a mixture of gravel and clay and seems to have been intended by nature to perform the double duty of both draining the surface and acting as a reservoir. In wet weather the gravel and clay quickly absorb the surplus surface water, which it retains until the heat of summer draws the moisture back again to the surface. Thus nature has provided both a self-acting drain and reservoir that can never fail or get out of order.⁷

Pipestone county is well drained. There are no large rivers, but there are numerous creeks, most of which are fed by springs, and as a consequence they are clear and pure. Almost the entire area of the county is drained by streams which flow to the southwest and find their way to the Missouri by way of the Big Sioux.⁸ The exception is the extreme northeastern corner of the county, which lies on the eastern slope of the Coteau and which is drained by the Redwood river, in which

area is also found the ultimate source of the Des Moines river.

The principal stream of the county is the west fork of Rock river, which rises in Rock township (so named from the circumstance) and flows south through the eastern tier of townships, leaving the county one and one-half miles south of the village of Edgerton. Its elevation above sea level at that point is 1500 feet. In Burke township the valley of Rock river is about fifty feet below the general level. Farther south the bluffs increase in height, reaching seventy-five and eighty feet in Osborne township, while the surrounding country is about twenty-five feet higher still. Rock river receives several tributaries from the east, but none of importance from the west. The principal tributary that enters the Rock within Pipestone county is Chanarambie creek, which enters one mile below Edgerton. Another tributary, Poplar creek, from the west side enters the Rock a few rods south of the southeast corner of section 32, Osborne township. The Chanarambie

⁷A writer in the Pipestone County Star stated that this part of the continent was once the bed of an ocean, and he attributed the richness of the soil to decayed deep water animal matter. He wrote:

"What becomes of the fish when they die? What becomes of the bones of the whales? Perhaps this is an unheard of question to ask, but still it may be asked. There are the shell fish, the sharks, the porpoises, but to name the denizens of the ocean would require hundreds of pages to write their names, in all seas, in all ages; so we will leave to the imagination to call the roll of the inhabitants of the sea, and ask again: What becomes of the fish when they die?"

"On the seaboard in many lands they catch fish and manure the land with them, and it is a rich manure. If the fish had died on the ocean where they lay, where they were buried it would be just as rich. There are currents in the ocean, and no doubt where the waters move most there the fish are most numerous; there there must be most death, and they are, no doubt, swept on with the flowing sea until they are carried to a burial ground, where the waters are at rest, and where would that most likely be? No doubt the bottom of the sea is uneven like the surface of the land. Here there is a great chain of hills and on one side or the other there is a deep depression, the hills retarding the flowing waters and the dead, floating therein, drop silently into the deep depression under the lee of the hills, and there they are buried; it's a great graveyard, hundreds of miles long, maybe, and miles and miles in width. There lie the fishes, little and great, in one common burial ground. The billows may roll above and the sea be lashed into foam and

the water become muddy, but down in the burial ground all is quiet; the dead lie there in silence, and the muddy waters drop down their mantel of sediment and cover them over.

"Now, just such a state of things existed in the ocean on the west side of the Coteau des Prairies. The soil that now yields the fabulous crops of flax and wheat and roots and grass was once the burial ground of the ocean, and under the long line of hills, stretching from where is now Spirit Lake, Iowa, to way up beyond the water sheds of the Mississippi and Red River of the North on the east and the Missouri on the west, to British America, is the bed of the sea; this was ocean's burial ground for perhaps thousands of years, at least long enough for the dead and their covering to be of many feet in depth. The peculiarity of the burial ground is that it has undergone but little change. The substances of the dead of the ocean are substantially still there, and it is to this is to be attributed the marbled character of the soil as one sees it when it is dug through. Dig a cistern down into the yellow clay with its gravel and lime and then look at it as it is to be seen on the sides of the cistern; you can almost make out the form of the bones of the fish as you look at the peculiar shapes the lime has assumed.

"This yellow till is clay, lime and gravel, and it was the old ocean's burial ground and is the richest agricultural soil in the world."

⁸The only portions of Minnesota whose waters find their way to the sea by way of the Missouri are Rock county, nearly all of Pipestone county and portions of Nobles and Jackson counties.

is also deeply channelled and there are many steep ravines.

All the other streams of the county flow in a southwesterly direction and enter the Big Sioux river. The average slope of the prairie from northeast to southwest is about ten feet to the mile; hence the streams whose beds are gravelly and not deep down flow freely but not rapidly. The most northerly of the streams on the west side of Pipestone

county is Flandreau creek, which has as a tributary Willow creek, and which rises in Fountain Prairie township. Pipestone creek, which is the next south, flows past the Pipestone quarries and receives a tributary from the north before it flows from the county. The Split Rock, one of the most picturesque streams of southwestern Minnesota, has its source in the southwestern part of the county and flows through the village of Jasper.

CHAPTER XXXI.

THE PRESS.

DURING a newspaper history of thirty-two years Pipestone county has been the home of no less than sixteen weekly, one monthly and one daily publications, ranging in life from a few issues to thirty-two years. Of these eighteen newspapers founded only five are in existence at the date of the publication of this volume, as follows: Pipestone County Star (semi-weekly) by Star Printing company, Ralph G. Hart, editor; Edgerton Enterprise by Oscar A. Green, Jasper Journal by Selah S. King, Farmers' Leader (Pipestone) by George G. Stone, and Woodstock News by A. H. Higley. Those that have fallen by the wayside are the Pipestone Daily Star, Pipestone Republican, Pipestone Republic, Pipestone Independent, the Public Tribune and Farmers' Advocate, which were succeeded by the Farmers' Leader; The Week's Review, which later went by the name of Pipestone Review; Minnesota Stjernen, Edgerton News, Woodstock Journal, Woodstock Eagle, Holland Advocate, Holland News, Trosky Advertiser and Ruthton Gazette.

The click of type was heard for the first time in Pipestone county in the month of June, 1879, on the nineteenth of which month was born the Pipestone County Star. A few weeks before this

event Isaac L. Hart had disposed of a paper of large patronage in Iowa and set out to seek a location for a new journal. After investigating the opportunities offered by many places, Mr. Hart came to the conclusion that Pipestone county, which was then enjoying rapid settlement, offered the best inducements for a long and profitable newspaper venture. So he purchased a plant and founded Pipestone county's first news journal—a paper which has ever since been maintained, practically under one management.

The Star at its birth was a seven column folio, only two pages of which were printed at home, and for several years it was a weekly publication. The first copy from the press was a proof and was purchased by Charles H. Bennett. The first complete copy of the paper was presented to W. N. Davidson, of Luverne, while the second copy went to H. D. Sanford, who was the first regular subscriber. For a few years the home of the Star was a little frame building which was located on the site of the present Odd Fellows building, but in 1883 Mr. Hart erected a native stone building on Hiawatha street, which has ever since been the home of the pioneer journal. The venture was a paying one from the start and within a little over a year the Star was enlarged to an eight column folio.

From the date of founding the pioneer journal has never missed an issue, but in the early days circumstances arose which sorely tried the publisher's wits to maintain this record. As an instance: During the snow blockade of 1880-81, when the ground was covered with four feet of the beautiful and the little village of Pipestone had been without mail, express or freight matter for eighty days, the Star was printed on colored paper for two weeks, then for several weeks on brown wrapping paper, which was secured from the stores, and when the supply was exhausted the Star appeared one week in miniature form on pages cut from a stock of scrap books which were carried in the old Star book store.

From January 22, 1884, until February 11, 1887, the Star was published as a semi-weekly, a seven column folio in size. On the last named date the weekly issue was resumed and the paper was enlarged to a quarto. Gardner E. Hart, son of the founder, was at this time admitted as a partner, and the publishing firm became I. L. Hart & Son. At the close of the year 1889 the founder of the paper withdrew temporarily from active management, although retaining his property interests in the paper, and Gardner E. Hart became sole manager. He published the paper as a six column quarto and in October, 1891, bought his father's interest and became the sole owner and publisher. I. L. Hart conducted the job department and assisted in the management of the paper to some extent.

The Pipestone Daily Star was founded April 4, 1892, and had an existence of nearly sixteen years, being discontinued on the last day of the year 1907. It was an evening journal, was founded as a five column folio, but was soon enlarged to a six column paper. There is, perhaps, no town in the state of Minnesota of the

size of Pipestone which supported a daily paper for so long a time.

Gardner E. Hart withdrew from the business March 31, 1900, and the publishers became Star Printing company. Ralph G. Hart, a younger son of the founder, becoming a member of the firm and taking editorial charge. Another change in management was made in May, 1904, when the Star Printing company was organized with the following officers: I. L. Hart, manager; K. G. Hart, secretary and treasurer; Ralph G. Hart, editor. At the present time Ralph G. Hart has editorial charge.

During the time the Daily Star was published the weekly edition was also maintained. Since the suspension of the daily a semi-weekly Star has taken the place of the weekly. The Star is republican politically. It has always been a factor in the advancement of the city of Pipestone and of Pipestone county and is rated as one of the leading papers of southwestern Minnesota. The plant is equipped with modern machinery and is a model in every way.

Pipestone county's second newspaper was not destined to live long. In the summer of 1880 Gardner E. Hart, of the Pipestone County Star, put a plant in the little village of Edgerton, then just founded, and on July 24, 1880, issued the first number of the Edgerton News, a six column folio. In September of the same year Jerome Davidson was installed as manager, but the venture not being a successful one, on October 2 publication was suspended and in November the plant was purchased by Morse & Chapman, of Lake Benton, and moved away.

Edgerton was a progressive little city in the early eighties, the spirit of its citizens demanded the publication of a paper there and it was not long before offers of support were given for the estab-

ishment of another journal. The Edgerton Enterprise was founded as a seven column folio by A. R. Burkdoll on April 28, 1883, and that gentleman was connected with the paper for over three years. From October 11, 1884, to May 30, 1885, R. H. Lueneburg, now of Lakefield, was associated with Mr. Burkdoll in the management of the paper, and for two months during the closing days of 1885 A. B. Barney was the publisher, he having bought the plant, but after a short reign having turned it back to Mr. Burkdoll. During its early history the Enterprise was a republican paper.

To prevent the suspension of the paper, in the fall of 1887, William Lockwood, J. C. Fay and C. S. Howard, local business men, bought the plant in company with J. C. Marshall, the latter assuming editorial control October 1, and a little later becoming sole proprietor of the Enterprise. Mr. Marshall conducted the paper as a democratic organ for a number of years and the paper and its editor were prominent factors in the political life of Pipestone county. He was in charge of the plant until the last of December, 1893, with the exception of a few months during the panic year. O. E. Hauge conducted the paper from December, 1892, to May, 1893, and then turned the office back to Mr. Marshall. J. Baxter Brennan leased the office in July of the same year but gave up the management after three weeks' trial.

A sale of the Enterprise was effected at the beginning of the year 1894, when E. C. Brake became the owner. He conducted the paper only until September of the same year and then sold to William Lockwood, who installed A. P. McDowell as editor and made the journal a republican organ. Mr. McDowell published his valedictory on Christmas day, 1896, and during the next year William McCune man-

aged the paper for Mr. Lockwood. At the beginning of the year 1898 the latter sold the paper to Prof. L. W. Ham, formerly principal of the Edgerton schools, and W. C. Akers, who conducted the publication under the firm name of Ham & Akers, changing the form to a five column quarto soon after assuming control and continuing it as a republican paper. Mr. Akers was in editorial charge until June 1, 1898, when he enlisted in the army and the partnership was dissolved, Mr. Ham becoming sole publisher. That gentleman published a creditable journal until the disposal of the plant in August, 1900.

The new proprietors were Oscar A. Green, who became editor and manager, and Lee W. Lockwood, who assumed the duties of local editor. They began printing the paper all at home in December, 1900, and one year later enlarged it to a six column quarto, which has ever since remained the form. Ed. Yocom bought Lee Lockwood's interest on January 1, 1902, and the publishing firm became Green & Yocom, Mr. Green continuing as manager and editor. On October 29, 1903, W. V. Olin became a member of the publishing firm, being associated with Messrs. Green and Yocom until June 9, 1904.

The last change in the affairs of the Edgerton Enterprise occurred December 1, 1905, when William Lockwood and Lee W. Lockwood purchased the plant. It was then leased for a term of years by Oscar A. Green and L. L. Green and its management is now vested in Oscar A. Green, who publishes an excellent journal. The Enterprise, during its long life, has had a varied career, but it has always been an important factor in the affairs of the little village in which it is published and in the history of Pipestone county journalism.

The fourth paper to bid for the patron-

age of the people of Pipestone county was the Pipestone Republic, which was founded by W. F. Jamieson on February 2, 1884. It was a six column folio, devoted largely to the interests of temperance. Mr. Jamieson published the Republic until April 11, 1885, when, not having met with financial success, the plant was moved to Delavan, Minnesota.

Just twelve days after the Pipestone Republic was launched on the sea of journalism, Pipestone's third paper, the Pipestone Republican, was put forth, the first number appearing February 14, 1884. For some time previous some of the local politicians had been dissatisfied with the course of the Pipestone County Star and had offered inducements to a number of newspaper men to start an opposition paper in Pipestone, but not until this time had they succeeded. James Baynes was the founder of the Republican, started as a nine column folio and made a six column quarto a year later. As the name indicated, the journal was an organ of the republican party. In October of the year of founding Messrs. O. T. Letcher and I. M. Letcher became the owners of the plant and J. H. Letcher was installed as managing editor. Frank C. Culley became the publisher on November 20, 1885, conducted the paper until December 9, 1887, then announced its suspension and shipped the plant to southern California, where it did duty in the publication of another paper. In his announcement of the suspension Mr. Culley said: " . . . It is sufficient for the publisher to know and state that the publication of the paper has been a financial failure from its commencement to its close. In the first place there was no reasonable business reason for a second paper ever being started in Pipestone."

The Woodstock Journal was the name of a short lived monthly paper, devoted

principally to literature, which was founded by Dr. H. Wilson, formerly of Edgerton, in May, 1886. Only a few numbers of the paper were issued.

When the Great Northern Railroad company built its line through Pipestone county in 1888 and the town of Jasper was founded, one of the first considerations was the establishment of a newspaper to assist in building up the town. The Jasper Journal, the first and only paper ever started in Jasper, was issued for the first time on July 27, 1888,—almost simultaneous with the birth of the town. It was started as a seven column folio and retained that form until August, 1899, when it became a five column quarto its present form. The Journal was founded by, and is still owned by, Selah S. King and E. W. Davies, and has always been under the management of the former, who conducts it as a republican paper. It has seen Jasper grow from a mere nothing to the second largest town in the county, and the Journal has certainly shared in the prosperity and advancement of the place, and today is enjoying the liberal patronage it deserves. If it were necessary to introduce any evidence to substantiate the statement that Mr. King's conduct of the paper has been satisfactory to the people of Jasper, the fact that he has published the one paper for nearly a quarter of a century without the appearance of a rival in the field might be set forth.

The Minnesota Stjernen, printed in the Norwegian language, was started at Edgerton October 26, 1889, by H. W. Rell. It was published in that village until February, 1890, when a removal to Pipestone was made. C. I. Ring at this time became interested in the ownership of the paper. In the latter part of April, 1890, the enterprise bringing a financial loss to its owners, the plant was moved to

Albert Lea, where publication was continued.

Although several newspapers were started in Pipestone in opposition to the Star in the early days it was not until 1890 that the town had reached the size to warrant the continuance of two publications. That year was founded the Farmers' Leader, which has ever since divided the patronage of the city with the Star.

This paper was started as the Public Tribune, which appeared for the first time on February 19, 1890, with F. A. Klunder as the editor and proprietor. After eight numbers had been issued, on April 16, 1890, A. D. Ferris bought an interest in the paper and the name was changed to Farmers' Advocate, it being announced by Messrs. Ferris & Klunder that the paper would be devoted to the interests of the farmers' alliance and other labor organizations.

Changes came thick and fast in the early history of this journal. On August 20, 1890, it was put forth as a five column quarto under the name of Farmers' Leader, with C. C. Goodnow as owner and editor, and after the birth of the peoples party it became a stanch supporter of that organization. A few months after the change noted above, in December, 1890, George G. Stone bought an interest in the Leader and thereafter until January 15, 1895, it was published by Goodnow & Stone. On the last named date Mr. Stone bought his partner's interest and has ever since conducted it, with the exception of one year. Under his leadership the Leader has been democratic. In the spring of 1899 he enlarged the paper to a six column quarto and added power machinery throughout. From the first of the year 1902 until December 1, of the same year, the Leader was conducted under a lease by W. C. Akers and J. L. Marshall, and was then again taken possession of by Mr. Stone.

The Farmers' Leader takes front rank among the newspapers of this section of the state and is an ably conducted journal. In Mr. Stone the people of Pipestone county have an able champion.

For a little over a year the Woodstock Eagle was published. It was founded in August, 1891, by Carl S. Eastwood, who has published more newspapers in southwestern Minnesota than any other two men. The month following its birth C. L. Wing bought a half interest in the paper and managed it under the firm name of Eastwood & Wing until August, 1892, and then secured full control. The last issue of the Eagle was printed December 23, 1892, having succumbed for lack of proper support, and the plant was taken to Balaton, where it was used in publishing the Balaton Eagle.

The village of Trosky was the home of a newspaper for something less than eight months in the early nineties. Jacob Tenney established the Trosky Advertiser, a seven column folio, March 24, 1893, and presided over its destinies until the following November, when he moved the plant to Wykoff, Minnesota, and launched the Wykoff Advertiser.

Pipestone Independent was the name of a paper founded by J. R. Mack on September 23, 1894. It was a campaign paper and was started for the purpose of supporting an independent county ticket in the campaign of that year. Mr. Mack, who was an unsuccessful candidate for county attorney on the ticket, was quite liberal in his abuse of the nominees of the regular parties. Only eight numbers were issued, the last one being dated November 10, 1894. Later in the year the former editor was convicted of embezzlement and sentenced to a term of imprisonment in the state penitentiary.

The Pipestone County News (now the Woodstock News) was founded by T. A. Stewart March 29, 1895, as a five column

quarto. Mr. Stewart, who came from Oscevedan, Iowa, established the paper for the purpose of booming the land business in which he was engaged in Woodstock. He conducted the paper until October 2, 1896, when Guy Lincoln took control. That gentleman conducted the paper only a few weeks, being succeeded on December 11 by M. D. Cadwell and W. R. Brower, the latter having editorial charge. The patronage accorded the new firm did not warrant it in continuing the publication long, and early in March, 1897, the publishers abandoned the business and left Woodstock without a paper. Two of the local business men, George H. Shields and Alta Bean, not wishing the town to be without a paper, got out four issues of the News, after which T. A. Stewart, the founder, again took control. He conducted the paper until October 21, 1898, when William McCune leased the plant, ran it only until January 13, 1899, and then turned it over again to Mr. Stewart. The latter resumed editorial control and conducted the paper until he leased it to Carl Cloud on August 15, 1899.

The plant of the Pipestone County News was bought on April 20, 1900, by the News Publishing company, which retained Mr. Cloud as editor. On November 29, 1901, the plant was purchased by Carl Cloud and George H. Shields, who worked the News as partners until July 11, 1902, when Mr. Shields bought his partner's interest and became sole proprietor. He changed the name of the paper to Woodstock News October 17, 1902, and continued the publication until March 18, 1904, when Dan Gagen leased a half interest and the publishing firm became Shields & Gagen. The firm continued until Jan. 1, 1904, and was succeeded by Will Davis, who conducted the paper until Mr. Shields

until February 1, 1905, when the latter again became sole publisher. On October 6, 1905, H. W. Haislet, formerly of the Murray County Herald, bought the plant from Mr. Shields and was the publisher until March 29, 1907, when the paper was purchased by F. G. Sullivan. He conducted it two years, selling on December 29, 1909, to Irving Shields, who took possession April 1, 1910. At that time A. H. Higley leased the plant and has since published the paper.

The next paper we have to consider in the order of founding is the Ruthton Gazette. This paper was established by W. C. Smith as a six column folio August 6, 1897, and was published by him for many years—for a time in partnership with L. W. Henderson. After having conducted the paper nearly twelve years, early in May, 1909, he announced the suspension of the Gazette and left Ruthton without a paper. After a lapse of six weeks the Gazette was revived by Mark Woolstencroft, who printed his first issue June 11. He changed the form to a five column folio and presided over the destinies of the publication until its suspension in January, 1911.

The Pipestone Review, which was founded as the Week's Review, had a checkered career of a little more than two years. The Week's Review was founded on the nation's birthday, 1902. The publishers were Week's Review company, of which Jay G. Kaplan was the manager and O. M. Haislet editor. It was founded as a six column quarto and retained that form during its life. Mr. Kaplan was actively connected with the management only one week, being succeeded in the company by Charles S. Young and George T. Fox. Two months after the founding of the Week's Review Paul A. Ewert secured the interests of Messrs. Haislet and Fox and from that date the

journal was conducted by Charles S. Young as manager and Paul A. Ewert as editor. The next change occurred March 4, 1903, when Mr. Young retired and Mr. Ewert became sole publisher. A few weeks later he changed the name of the publication to Pipestone Review.

In May, 1904, Mr. Kaplan, who founded the Review, again took charge of the publication, securing it as a result of a decision in the district court, in which the jury awarded the Review plant to him. Mr. Kaplan had brought an action for replevin against Mr. Ewert, who claimed that he had traded land for the Review plant. Mr. Kaplan asserted that no such deal had been made and that he did not, nor had he agreed to, dispose of the plant. Mr. Kaplan again became the publisher and conducted it until June, 1904. At that time the Review plant was purchased by J. L. Marshall & Co., who installed H. L. Williamson as editor and manager. December 10, 1904, Marshall & Marshall became the publishers and a little later the paper was discontinued and the plant moved away.

The Holland Advocate was founded by George N. Kieffer July 31, 1903. It was

purchased by Dan Gagen in May, of the following year, who conducted it until March, 1905. At that time D. A. Gibbs became the editor and proprietor. It was an up-hill job publishing a paper in a town the size of Holland and although Mr. Gibbs made strenuous efforts to keep up the struggle he gave up the effort late in July, 1905, and suspended publication, shipping the plant to North Dakota.

The last paper founded before the publication of this volume was the Holland News, which made its appearance in July, 1906. It was issued from the office of the Woodstock News and H. W. Haislet, the editor of that paper, was also the publisher of the Holland paper, A. E. Hatch, of Holland, acting as local editor. Disaster overtook the new journal almost immediately. Because it was not printed in the town from which it was mailed it was denied admission to the mails as second class matter. Mr. Haislet at first decided that he would continue the publication despite the ruling of the postoffice department, but later decided that discretion was the better part of valor and gave up the venture. The Holland News had an existence of about one month.

CHAPTER XXXII.

REMINDERS OF EARLY DAYS.

OF THE many stories of events and conditions in the early days of Pipestone county's history, I have selected the following for publication:

RESERVATION SQUATTERS.

Under the terms of the treaty with the Yankton branch of the Sioux nation, made in 1858, the United States government guaranteed that tribe the exclusive right to quarry the red Indian pipestone, found at no other place in the world, for so long a time as they desired during the lifetime of the treaty. Furthermore, the government caused to be surveyed at the quarries a reservation, one mile square, for the above purpose, according to the terms of the treaty. In a former chapter of this work has been told the abortive attempt of whites to secure title to the quarries in 1871. Thereafter until 1883 the whites without exception respected the rights of the aborigines to the quarries and the reservation. Then came a determined effort on the part of a few residents of Pipestone to secure the reservation lands, an act which, according to government officials and Indian agents, came near precipitating an Indian outbreak.

Notwithstanding repeated warnings by old settlers against their proposed unwise undertaking, in June, 1883, C. C. Goodnow and L. H. Moore squatted upon

lands within the reservation. Each erected a building on his claim, and Mr. Goodnow made his home thereon. The act created quite a commotion at the time, but for some time no official notice was taken, and before the summer was over others had squatted upon the reservation. In July H. W. George "jumped" the Moore claim of sixty acres, erected a cabin, and made his home there.

The first action by government authorities to remove the squatters was taken in November, 1883. At that time Major Ridpath, who was in charge of the Indian agency at Yankton, accompanied by Dr. Taylor, of Canton, Dakota territory, appeared in Pipestone and served notices upon Messrs. Goodnow, George and Moore, ordering them to remove themselves and their improvements from the reservation. Major Ridpath stated that he had just returned from Washington, where he had secured the necessary authority for his action; that he would return to Pipestone within ten or fifteen days, and that if the orders were not complied with he would have the necessary force to eject the squatters summarily.

According to the Indian agent, ever since the first invasion of the sacred land by Mr. Goodnow and others, there had been a spirit of uneasiness among the Yanktons under his command, and at

times so demonstrative had they become that he feared an outbreak. The Indians charged all manner of bad faith upon the government for allowing white settlers to invade the sacred plot of ground. Time after time the Indian police implored the major to let them go to Pipestone and clear the reservation by means of the torch, and thus show the whites that the rights of the Indian could not be trampled upon. So restless did the tribe become, explained the agent, that about six weeks previous an Indian policeman was permitted to go to the reservation and look the ground over carefully and see whether there was any provocation for this great tumult or not. A trusty savage was sent on this mission quietly. He returned to the agency and reported conditions to old Strike-the-Ree and other chiefs, and for a time the agent had all he could do to control and keep down the savage nature of the red men. They thirsted for the blood of the men who had invaded their domain. The major quieted their feelings, a council was held, and it was agreed that the major should go to Washington and consult with the "Great Father," and that his decision should be final. Dr. Taylor corroborated the agent's statements and added that the lives of the squatters had been in jeopardy for several weeks, that only by the utmost vigilance had members of the Yankton tribe been prevented from stealing away and attacking the interlopers.

The squatters paid no attention to the agent's orders or to his very capable talk and continued to live on the reservation. During the next few years others erected buildings on the Indians lands, namely, W. H. Hockabout, William Whitehead and G. W. Huntley. Occasionally came rumors of hostilities and occasionally mild-mannered attempts to remove the white settlers, but the squatters contin-

ued to hold their claims until 1887, when the arrival of United States soldiers on the scene brought about the evacuation of the reservation. A short time before this drastic action, the United States supreme court handed down a decision in which the Indians' rights to dig their sacred pipestone on the reservation were upheld. On October 11, 1887, there appeared in Pipestone ten soldiers of the Fifth United States regulars, under command of Captain J. W. Bean, accompanied by Judge Kinney, Indian agent at Yankton, and a surveying officer, Lieutenant W. N. Blow. The military officer had orders from the war department for the pre-emptory removal of the whites, peaceably if possible, forcibly if necessary. Judge Kinney was equally well armed with orders from the department of the interior. The squatters capitulated. All removed themselves and their household goods from the reservation. They were granted time until the following spring to move the buildings; C. C. Goodnow's house, the last white man's habitation on the reservation, was moved to town early in June, 1888. The war was over!

A RAILROAD WAR.

The law provides that when the track of one railroad crosses that of another, the company which is building across the right-of-way of the other shall put in the crossing and maintain the same for all time. There is no provision for a case where two new lines of road reach a crossing point at the same time, and this fact led to a lively railroad war at Pipestone when the Omaha and Burlington roads reached the city at practically the same time in 1884—a war which was well "played up" in the papers all over the United States.

Engineer Watson, of the Burlington, laid his track at the point where the cross-

ing was to be made before the arrival of the track-laying crews, for the express purpose of escaping the necessity of putting in the crossing. It was a clever move, but the Omaha workers were also strategists. When their track was laid to the point of crossing, without ceremony they pulled up the Burlington track and laid their own. This was done on Sunday, when the Burlington officials could take no action at law to restrain their rivals. After laying the track the Omaha authorities stationed a loaded freight train at the point of crossing, and for over a week an engine remained there to prevent the Burlington workmen from tearing up their track. The same evening, a Burlington engine was run up to the point of crossing and, likewise, held its position until matters were settled. The Omaha officials secured a temporary injunction, restraining the Burlington people from interfering with the track. The blockade did not materially delay the work of building either road, for the track-layers continued their work beyond the disputed point.

The trouble was amicably adjusted. At a conference between S. J. Tracy, solicitor for the Burlington, and Superintendent Whitman, of the Omaha, an arrangement was made whereby the Burlington was to construct a permanent crossing over the Omaha tracks and pay for the privilege. The Omaha, having possession, and supported by a temporary injunction, was in a position to dictate terms, which it did. The crossing was put in the latter part of July.

THE LONG WINTER.

A book could be filled with the adventures and unpleasant features of the long winter of deep snows, 1880-81. For weeks the people of Pipestone county were isolated, without mail and scantily supplied

with fuel, provisions and many of the necessities of life. Here are recorded only a few of the incidents of the winter.

In the remarkable blizzard of October 15, 1880, James Hislop, who resided in the north part of the county, set out on foot with his wife and child for a neighbor's house, hoping to get better shelter than his house afforded. During the trip they became exhausted, stopped to rest, and were soon covered with a snow drift. Mr. Hislop worked his way out of the drift and went ahead to seek the house they were looking for. He had gone only a short distance when he returned for his family, but he could not find the place where he had left them. After searching in the blinding storm for some time, he went for assistance. A searching party was at once organized, but it was not until the following afternoon that the unfortunate woman and her child were found. Mrs. Hislop made a cavern in the drift and thus kept from smothering to death. She succeeded in keeping the child warm, but she was badly frozen.

Illustrative of the scarcity of fuel even early in the blockade is the following incident. Mr. McKenzie, of Pipestone, early in February went to the little town of Verdi, where he purchased 550 pounds of hard coal, loaded it upon his sled, and then started for home. When he was five miles from Verdi a blizzard overtook him and he was obliged to take refuge in a nearby house. The storm made the roads impassable and Mr. McKenzie was obliged to return home and leave his load. On February 21 he went out after it, but the coal had disappeared, a man with a sick family and no fuel having taken it. While in Verdi Mr. McKenzie learned of one man who had split up his harvester for the wood it contained, while several other parties had burned everything in the shape of wood they could find and were then

nearly destitute. Not a bit of fuel was to be had in Verdi and Mr. McKenzie returned home empty-handed.

A family residing in a claim shanty south of Pipestone had a unique experience. The blizzard of March 11 entirely covered the shack, leaving absolutely no trace of it. For two days the family were obliged to use candle light, but did not suffer any inconveniences. The house was shoveled out by a party of railroad shovelers.

The scarcity of fuel and provisions resulted in many amusing incidents. The Pipestone County Star of March 3 told of a new-fangled fuel:

We have been asked for our experience in burning railroad ties. Well, we have had some during the past month. They are not very expensive fuel, oh no! Forty of them make an ordinary cord of wood—soft wood at that—and have been sold at thirty-five cents apiece, just \$14 for the cord at the depot. On getting them home we find that they cost five cents each for hauling—an additional \$2.00. For sawing and splitting the cost was \$2.50, total for a cord of very soft wood, \$18. We have tried the wood in one stove and greenbacks in another, and so far as the heat is concerned, we believe it is in favor of the stove that burns the greenbacks.

The Star also told of a substitute for wrapping paper:

Our butchers, being out of wrapping paper, have conceived the novel idea of using sharpened sticks, and it is nothing uncommon to see people going through the streets with parasols made of a hunk of roast beef or a round steak. Necessity is the mother of invention.

THE PRAIRIE FIRES.

During the entire early history of Pipestone county prairie fires brought great losses to the settlers, and many thousands of dollars worth of property were destroyed through that agency. In the fall of 1879, a terrible fire was great damage. For nights in succession the heavens were illumined by the glare from the raging prairie fires. On October 5, while a

hard south wind was blowing, a fire was started in the northeastern part of the county, and in a moment, almost, the raging flames had spread over miles of territory. Houses and barns, hay and grain stacks, melted before it like so much paper, and thousands of dollars damage was done in a few hours. In attempting to save his team, Mike Gamble was severely burned.

On the same day a fire was started two miles northwest of Pipestone, which spread with fearful rapidity and brought great damage in Troy township. The flames jumped firebreaks, and tumble weeds carried the fire miles ahead of the main conflagration. A desperate fight was put up before the flames were finally under control. The southeastern part of the county also suffered severely from fires that season, and many of the new settlers were burned out as an initiation to Pipestone county. The local paper said on October 9: "To try to estimate these losses at this writing would be useless. They are simply enormous for the new beginners in this new county and are indeed discouraging to the sufferers." C. H. Bennett and wife fought one of these fires all night to keep it from burning their home and invading the town from the north.

Even the towns were threatened. The people of Pipestone bestirred themselves and burned breaks on all sides of the village. In later years, also, danger threatened. So late as the fall of 1883, the Star sounded this warning:

Do the citizens of this village intend to take any steps to protect the town from burning up? The prairie grass all around us is dry and crisp, ready to burn at a moment's notice. Hay and grain stacks are, in many places near town, in close proximity to stables and houses. The prairie once on fire, with the wind blowing as it generally does here, these stacks, stables and houses would go up in smoke in short order. We should have a fire break all around town, and that right off.

Fires in the fall of 1884 brought losses in the eastern part of the county amounting to \$50,000, according to an estimate by the Pipestone Republican. So late as 1889 the Jasper Journal chided the people of that town for not taking precautionary measures. On September 27 of that year it said: "As yet nothing has been done toward protecting the village from the prairie fire fiend. This is a matter that we can hardly afford to neglect. Action is what is wanted."

AN HISTORIC ORGAN.

A small item in the history of a county, it would seem, the purchase of an organ! And yet, the securing of the first instrument of the kind in Pipestone was attended with much ceremony, and its story here will recall fond memories, no doubt. It was in the year 1880 that the socially inclined decided to raise money to secure an organ for church, social and public use. It was to be owned jointly by the Presbyterian and Methodist societies, with the understanding that when the societies ceased holding services in union the instrument was to become the property of that organization offering the other the greater price.

To raise the necessary funds, purchase the organ, and take care of it, a committee was appointed, composed of Simon Clark, Mrs. Riley French, Maria Nichols, Ralph Wiger, C. H. Bennett, Bert Lewis and J. W. Corl. The first \$30 or \$40 were raised by a home talent entertainment entitled "Among the Breakers" and given in Bennett's hall. The organ, a seven-stop Petouhet & Pelton, was purchased in St. Paul for \$65. For several years it was the only instrument of the kind in the village and was used at church services, prayer meetings, dances, political meetings, social entertainments and lyceums. Sometimes it would be used early in the

evening at a prayer meeting, would then be sneaked out of the church, and be utilized the rest of the night to furnish music for a dance.

THE BACHELOR HOMESTEADER.

At the second meeting of the Pipestone County Old Settlers' society, held in Pipestone March 15, 1881, Mrs. C. H. Bennett read the following original poem on the bachelor homesteader of Pipestone county:

Back to the dreary claim at close of day,
The lone pre-emptor takes his weary way;
Sunburned and brown, unshaven and unshorn,
His clothes much soiled and often sadly torn,
Toes peeping from his boots, and battered hat,
Tired, cold and hungry as a prowling cat
How changed from him we in the city knew,
In lustrous broadcloth and a stovepipe, too,
Cigar in mouth and carpet sack in hand,
By fast train bound to Pipestone's promised land,
His whisks of hay well twisted for the night,
He lights a fire and cooks a hasty bite.
Let's take a peep within the shanty door,
Just take a sniff of viands ne'er smelled before;
Mush and "slum gullion" form the savory fare,
And other dishes strange are smoking there.
No griddle has he, but he bakes
Upon the stove's wide top his griddle cakes.
A broken shovel blade his bacon fries,
And for the tea, a fruit can will suffice.
His supper over, he improves the chance
To patch with gunny sack his battered pants.
In musing mood he listens to the roar
Of the wild blizzard howling round the door;
He thinks of wife and child with pensive mind,
Or maybe of the girl he left behind;
And though he hopes a heavy crop to raise,
Is still uncertain whether pioneering pays.
With how much sameness do the seasons run!
How eagerly he catches at a chance for fun!
And if a traveler or a friend by chance drop in
On Sunday, euhre is not thought a sin;
The next a sermon is by them confessed,
The very thing to make them all most blessed.

GAME IN EARLY DAYS.

Owing to the fact that all the neighboring counties were settled before Pipestone county, there was very little big game left in the county after white settlers came, although occasionally some of the former habitues of the prairie were encountered. A drove of about a dozen deer was seen in Burke township in December, 1879. They were chased by M. D. Moriarty, mounted on a fleet horse, but, of course, he was unable to run them down. During the winter of 1880-81 the deep snow drove deer from their accustomed

haunts, and they were seen at several places in the county. In January, 1881, Andy Jackson and H. W. George shot one southeast of Pipestone.

So late as the spring of 1885 a family of beaver operated in Rock river just below the mouth of the Chanarambie. They had a dam on the farm of J. C. and W. A. Fay, on the east half of section 33, Osborne township, where they caused to form a pond a quarter of a mile in length and from two to ten feet deep. The little animals were frequently seen at work on the dam and in the rapid current.

During the long, cold winters prairie wolves were frequently encountered. Sometimes hunger made these usually timid animals desperate, and they approached near houses and passing teams.

Waterfowl and prairie chickens there were by the millions. The following local item from the columns of the Pipestone County Star of October 27, 1881, leads to the belief that wild geese were once more numerous than they are now: "A farmer north of town made an offer to sportsmen the other day, that if they would come out to his place and hunt wild geese for a week to keep them from destroying his cornfield, he would board the hunters for the time free of charge. Wild geese must be too numerous for comfort out that way."

INCIDENT OF BONUS-VOTING DAYS.

The following incident connected with the voting of bonds to aid in the construction of the Willmar & Sioux Falls railroad was printed in the Sioux City Journal in January, 1906:

D. M. Stewart, a wealthy lumberman of Astoria, Oregon, was in town Sunday on his way to Pipestone, Minnesota, where he formerly resided. T. A. Black, of Sioux City, and Mr. Stewart were young men together in Pipestone, and Sunday they were recalling a memorable ride which they took together twenty years ago. It was when the

Great Northern was first talking of building its line through Pipestone, and it had asked the county for a bonus as a pledge of good faith. The citizens of Pipestone were anxious to secure the railroad at any cost, but the little town of Edgerton, which was not on the proposed line, was opposed to granting its demand. A prominent firm of lawyers were the leaders of the opposition, and Jones, one of their best friends, was detailed to plead with them. In his anxiety, he overstepped the limit and tried to bribe them into consenting. This so enraged the worthy gentlemen that they waived their friendship for the man who had insulted them and got out a warrant for his arrest for bribery.

Mr. Black and Mr. Stewart heard of this, and knowing that the man had merely been a little too eager, and wishing to save him from prison, they secured a team at Pipestone and began the twenty mile drive to Edgerton, with the enraged lawyers following close behind with the warrant for their friend's arrest. It was a stormy night and the road was heavy, but the horses were not spared. Their pursuers stopped to change horses and Messrs. Black and Stewart reached the house of the would-be briber thirty minutes before them. Jones was called from his bed and came out with a white face. He was one of the most respected men in the county and the prospect of a penitentiary sentence was a decided shock to him. He was finally persuaded to dress, and in a few minutes the party was off, this time in Jones' rig. They made straight for the South Dakota line, and just before daylight deposited Jones safe in Dakota territory.

In a few weeks the affair was forgotten and the charge against Jones was withdrawn, but Jones failed to return until persuaded it would be safe.

THE TOWN PUMP.

In the early days of Pipestone's history the town's entire water supply came from one well, owned by all the residents. The following items from the Star of 1879 were at the time pertinent to a most important subject:

A subscription paper is being circulated to raise the necessary means to sink another town well. Everybody should give a little towards this much needed increase of our water facilities. (August 28).

Taking water from the town well by the barrel should be prohibited in some way. It is the only good well in the town, and should it give out we would have to suffer for water. (September 25).

The only town well gave out last Mon-

day night, and those who could not drink rain water had to go thirsty. (October 2).

Some one is making a practice of removing parts of the pump in the east part of town every night, so that they can get the first chance at the water in the morning. The pump is a public institution, and parties taking this mean advantage had better look a "leedle out" or they will be prosecuted. (November 20).

THE MEDICINE SIOUX.

The following legend of the Pipestone quarry is from the pen of W. N. Davidson, of Laverne, who wrote under the nom de plume, D. Ivan Downs:

Hast been where Winnewissa's fall
Goes plunging o'er the gray old wall,
Where mist-wreaths rise above the flow
Of foaming waters, white as snow,
And roll and float up toward the skies,
All glorious with the radiant dyes?

Hast seen the yeasty waters dash
Against the stones, as they would wash
From human gaze the hideous glare
Of sanguine splotches lying there,
And marked the column, rough and gray,
Swept by the seething whirlpool's spray,
That stands like priest with cross and stole
By door of fane, near the bowl
Of heaven-blessed waters, to efface
The stains of murder from the place?

Wild storms have beaten, winds have blown,
For ages on that thing of stone,
And there it stands as firmly yet
As when its basic blocks were set
At some far time beyond the ken
Of human kind—a period when
Some mighty force, by sudden throe
Or power most potent, moving slow,
Did rend and bear its substance all
Three yards from off the parent wall.

Marked you that face, sublime and grand,
Wrought on that rock by nature's hand,
A human face that looks as though
It sympathized with human woe?

As old Dakota legends tell,
There was a day when there befell,
Here by the brookside in the vale,
The happenings of a wondrous tale.
Wa-kon-i-ya-pa-man-i ("He-
That-Walks-with-God") did sing it me,
With many a nod and dubious wink,
As if to say, "I scarcely think,
If you were I, and I were you,
I should accept this tale as true."

He is a San-tee Indian, who
Renounced all habits of the Sioux;
Who, with an eye to "Number One,"
Declined to chase the setting sun
When Uncle Sam reached forth his hand,
Appropriating all their land;
Who took a homestead, settled down
Unlike his brethren pale, of town,
Who merely filed and after swore
They'd occupied five years and more!
He stayed, as by the law decreed,
And then proved up and took his deed.
His "claim" had never grown so slim
That land shark tried "contesting" him!
A patriot citizen is he,
Who's ta'en the oath of fealty.

The once powerful tribe of the Mandans was greatly reduced by the loss of many of its members, early in the last century by the

He casts his vote like English lord,
Or "Freeman of the Sixteenth Ward!"
And sings "My Country 'tis of Thee"
On natal days of liberty,
An orthodox, straight citizen,
Who at the church responds, "Amen,"
And rubs his hands with fervor, too,
Exactly as white Christians do,
But, lured to falsify and cheat,
Or gain an object through deceit,
Says by his action firm, "I won't,"
Precisely as some Christians don't!
"Joe Barker" is the name he chose
When he laid by his Indian clothes.

And this is the tale in song he told,
When the sun sank down to a bed of gold,
And the hills withdrew for a night of rest,
As a breeze came out of the purple west.

Hoo-ya, hoo-ya, hoo-ya, hoo!
I'll tell you the tale of the Medicine Sioux,
Of the Medicine Sioux
And his daughter, too.
Hoo-ya-hoo!

He lived right here,
In the valley near,
And men did fear
His eye so clear.
Hoo-ya-hoo—
The Medicine Sioux!

He could look right through
The thought you had,
And tell you whether you
Were good or bad.
Hoo-ya-hoo—
The Medicine Sioux!

And if he found your heart no good
He'd pierce it through with a glance of his
eye.
Hi-yi-hi. Hi-yi-hi—
And out would run your blood, blood, blood,
All over the ground, and you would die.
Hi-yi-hi. Hi-yi-hi.

One day a Man-dan came to see
His beautiful daughter, Wa-pa-kee.
He-ye-he. He-ye-he—
She was as sweet as she could be.

Though mild of eye
And smooth of tongue,
And musical all
The songs he'd sung,
And in her sight he was fair and young,
This bold Man-dan
Was a Medicine Man—
A man of mysteries never told,
And more than forty thousand years old!
Now he is where bad Indians go.
Aho-ho-ho. Aho-ho-ho.

His chief commanded him to come
And bear that maid to his far off home;
For mid a mighty smoke and smell
This medicine dog had wrought a spell.
Then told his people if they'd eat,
Each one, of the flesh of a maiden sweet,
The fell disease that racked them sore
Would fly away, and come no more,
And not one other Man-dan die.¹
Hi-yi-hi. Hi-yi-hi.

And so he made himself look young,
Made bright his eye, and clove his tongue,
Then came, and with the Yanktons staid
Two moons, and courted the fair young maid,
Intending to pick her shoulder blade,
When she should be roasted crisp and brown
By a grease-wood fire, in the Man-dan town.
Aho-o-ahoo-ahoo-ahoo—
The daughter of the Medicine Sioux.

ravages of small pox, introduced by white traders.

Her sire, returning from the chase,
Beheld them kissing near the place
Where o'er the rocks the waters pour
And break upon the hard stone floor,
And saw, by the instant look he gave,
The snake in the heart of the Man-dan knave.

And suddenly sent a deadly glance
That pierced the dog's heart through, as a
lance,
And the Man-dan fell, on gray paws four!
Was a wolf? Ran away and was seen no more!
But, ah-ah-ah, and oh-oh-oh!—
The maiden fell down, and her blood did flow
All over the stones in a crimson tide!
And thus in a moment's time she died!

Then the night came down
O'er the world too soon,
And darkness reigned
At the hour of noon!
And ever since these deeds were done
The old man stands there—a man of stone!

And now I've told the tale to you,
The bloody tale of the Medicine Sioux!
Ahoo ahoo ahoo-ahoo—
The dreadful tale of the Medicine Sioux!

LETTER FROM LONGFELLOW.

Everybody knows that in "The Peace Pipe," which forms the opening chapter of Henry W. Longfellow's great poem, "Hiawatha," the scene is laid at the famous Pipestone quarries. Everybody may not know, however, that Mr. Longfellow never visited the spot, but that he derived his data for the poem from the writings of Henry R. Schoolcraft, George Catlin and other explorers. In 1879 C. H. Bennett sent to the poet a photograph of the plan of the village of Pipestone, a copy of the first issue of the Star, and an invitation to attend the Fourth of July celebration. In reply he received the following autograph letter from Mr. Longfellow:

Cambridge, Mass., June 30, 1879.

My Dear Sir: I thank you for your kind remembrance, for the copy of the Star and for the plan of your new city, which I return enclosed.

I see the authorities have done me the honor of naming a street after me—a compliment which I fully appreciate.

I wish it were in my power to accept your kind invitation to visit you, but that is impossible for many reasons. I am afraid I shall never look with mortal eyes on the great Red Pipestone Quarry.

With my compliments to Mrs. Bennett, and good wishes for you both,

Very truly yours,

HENRY W. LONGFELLOW.

AN ELECTION WAGER.

During the exciting presidential campaign of 1888 a unique wager was made between E. C. Dean, who was the county attorney, and E. W. Davies, of the Pipestone County Bank. The wager was drawn up in the form of an agreement and was as follows:

Memorandum of an agreement entered into between E. C. Dean and E. W. Davies the twenty-third day of August, 1888:

In event of the election of Grover Cleveland to the presidency, E. C. Dean agrees to attend the Catholic church once every Sunday on which services are held there. On Sundays on which no services are held in the Catholic church of this village, he is to attend the Methodist church once each Sunday.

In the event of the election of Benjamin Harrison to the presidency, E. W. Davies agrees to oil the windmill of the village waterworks, free of charge to the village, at such times and in such manner as required by the village council. If the village council will not grant him the permission to oil the windmill, then E. W. Davies agrees to climb the windmill tower to the top as often and at such times as the village authorities require the oiling to be done.

This agreement to take effect March 4, 1889, and to be in force for one year from that date.

(Signed)

E. C. DEAN,

E. W. DAVIES.

In presence of T. A. Black, Robert Scarf, J. H. Enearl, E. E. Tibbetts, I. L. Hart.

It may be remembered that Benjamin Harrison was elected. To accustom himself of his duties as windmill oiler, Mr. Davies shortly after the election started up the ladder to the tower, got about half way up, and came down to negotiate a compromise. This was effected by Mr. Davies marching in the procession in celebration of the republican victory and carrying a Harrison banner.

EARLY COUNTY FINANCES.

Pipestone county was not unduly burdened with cash for some time after its organization. In 1896, when the auditor's



WINNEWISSA FALL

"Has been where Winnewissa's fall
Goes plunging o'er the gray old wall?"

and treasurer's offices were overhauled, a number of old documents were found, among which was the county's first bank book, headed "Pipestone County Bank, in account with Reuben Clark, County Treasurer." The account was opened in the fall of 1879, and on the first of the following year the county's balance was \$100. During the months of January and February, 1880, \$71.14 were deposited, and at the time of the June settlement the county had a balance of \$136.88 to apportion among the different funds.

SHOOTING FOR RAIN.

During the hot, dry season of 1894, when the crops of Pipestone county were destroyed, many of the residents professed belief in the ability to bring rain by cannonading. Accordingly money was raised by subscription, several kegs of powder were purchased, and on June 15 the heavens were bombarded. The concussions did not bring the desired rain, but that night there was an extraordinarily heavy fall of dew, which some attributed to the use of the powder. Upon the approach of a cloud on the evening of June 20 the experiment was tried again, and for more than an hour was heard the continual boom of Pipestone's heavy artillery. The cloud advanced slowly, and late in the evening the whole sky was overcast. During the night, however, the clouds all disappeared and in the morning the sun's rays again beat down upon a parched land. In Pipestone there was a difference of opinion in regard to the cannonading and the actions of the clouds. Some maintained that the firing was kept up so long that it dissolved the clouds, others that if the firing had been continued rain would surely have followed. Perhaps some other community was in the game with

heavier artillery and inveigled the Pipestone county cloud away.

EARLY DAY SCHOOL.

A country correspondent, writing in June, 1879, to the Pipestone County Star, told of the beginning of school in district No. 5, as follows:

District No. 5, in pursuance to call, has just elected its first officers, as follows: Director, Charles Smith; clerk, F. A. Converse; treasurer, Robert Campbell. It was voted to have two months school, to commence the first Sunday after the fourth of July, also that each pupil should furnish his own seat. Mr. Wheeler generously offers to furnish the building for school purposes, and Mr. Smith, the blackboard, so there will be but a small expense to the district. We hope that those having children will avail themselves of this favorable opportunity in this new country.

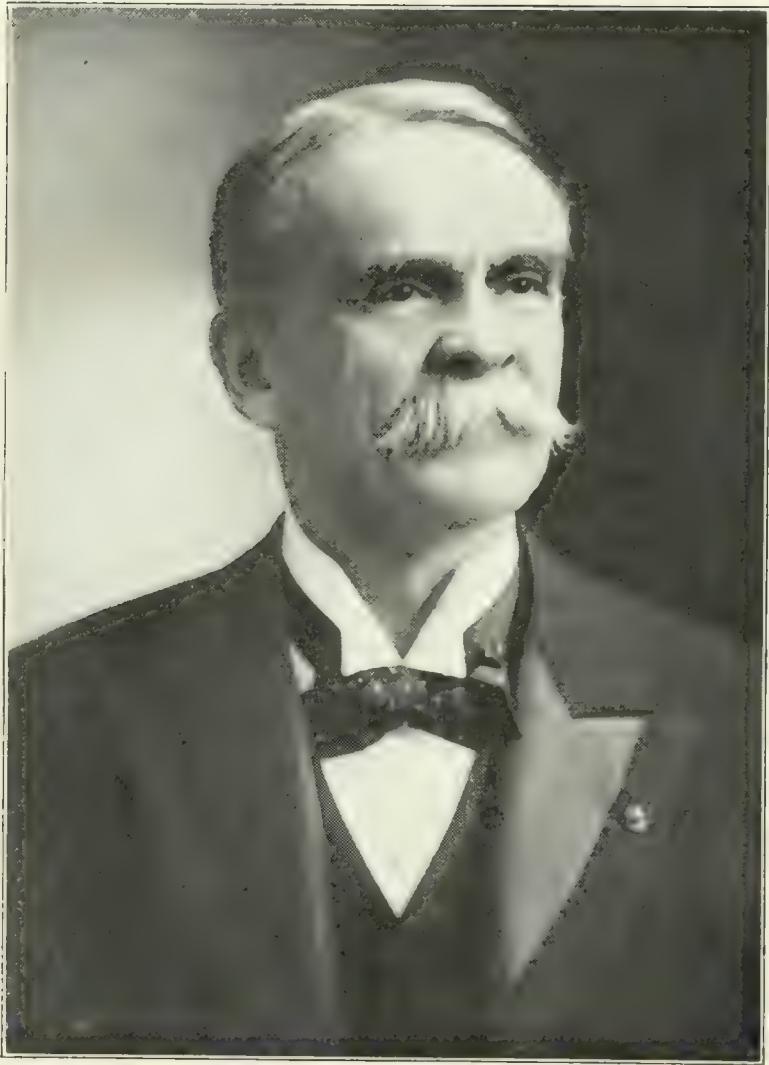
TIMES HAVE CHANGED.

The following items from the columns of the Pipestone County Star illustrate vividly the changes that have taken place in Pipestone county within a few years:

Turn Square Corners.—Farmers should be careful in going out and in town not to drive across the sidewalks, as there is a severe penalty for so doing. The day of short cuts in this village has passed and teams are now compelled to turn square corners, as they will all through the county before long. (April 27, 1882).

Hay Burners.—A good many people had supposed that the day of hay burners had passed entirely. But it is not so. Our hardware men are busy making stoves all the time for this purpose, and there are many farmers in this county still burning hay, who claim that it not only double discounts fuel in cost but is much warmer. Those using it ought to know and when farmers can raise their own fuel the expense of winter cannot be very great. (January 12, 1886).

The First Automobile.—The first automobile to be owned in this city reached here last evening on the Omaha. It is the property of T. F. Robinson, the telephone magnate. Naturally the vehicle created a commotion wherever it appeared, and many persons stopped to take a long look at the self-moving carriage, the first of its kind seen on our streets. (September 13, 1901).



HARRISON WHITE

Member Minnesota Legislature and a Rock County Pioneer of 1877

CHAPTER XXXIII.

ROCK COUNTY BIOGRAPHICAL

HARRISON WHITE (1877).^{*} In the county of Rock there is no more distinguished citizen and none more entitled to a place in this history than Colonel Harrison White, of Luverne. He is a distinguished soldier of the civil war, a pioneer of Rock county, the founder of Beaver Creek village, a member of the Minnesota legislature in 1907-08 and again in 1911-12, and past commander of the Minnesota Grand Army of the Republic. The story of his life is an interesting one.

Colonel Harrison White was born in the city of Boston on the last day of April, 1841, a descendant of old New England stock dating back to the arrival of the Mayflower. His parents were William A. and Lucy J. (Jackson) White. Until he was fourteen years of age he lived in his native city, securing his primary education. He accompanied his parents to Brooklyn in 1855 and there completed his education in the high school. He took a position as clerk in New York city and was so employed until the breaking out of the civil war.

Before the outbreak of the war young White was a member of company G, of the Thirteenth New York state militia, and when Fort Sumpter was fired upon this regiment offered its services to the government. Within a week after the firing on Fort Sumpter Harrison White was mustered into the United States service with the regiment on a three months' enlistment. Upon his return from this service, in August, Mr. White began the work of raising a

company of cavalry, pitching his recruiting tent in city hall park, where the government postoffice now stands. He was successful in recruiting a troop, which became troop L, Sixth New York cavalry, designated at the time as "Ira Harris' Guards," in honor of Senator Harris, of New York. Mr. White was commissioned first lieutenant of his troop by the governor and was first stationed with the regiment on Staten Island, where the regiment rendezvoused.

From the Staten Island rendezvous the regiment was transferred to Perryville, Maryland, and assigned to the army of the Potomac, under General McClellan. There the regiment guarded the river crossing; later it was sent into barracks at York, Pennsylvania, for drill and to await horses and equipment. For a time thereafter the regiment was stationed at Capitol Hill, Washington, and later at Cloud's Mill, Virginia. Soon afterward it engaged in actual services as a part of the army of the Potomac and remained a part of that army until the close of the war, serving under Generals McClellan, Mead, Burnside, Hooker and Sheridan.

With his regiment Colonel White participated in over one hundred battles—all of the principal ones in which the army of the Potomac took part. Among the engagements best known to history in which our subject fought were the battles of South Mountain, Antietam, Sailor's Creek, Charlestown, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Winchester, Chancellorsville, Cold

^{*}The date in parentheses following the name of each subject is the year of arrival to Rock or Pipestone county.

Harbor, Jones' Bridge, Five Forks, Yellow Tavern, Fisher's Hill, Cedar Creek, Appomattox, siege of Richmond and many others of lesser importance. At the battle of Five Forks Mr. White received two shots through his clothing and one of his horses was shot three times. At other battles he had three horses shot from under him.

The promotion of our subject was rapid, he being commissioned in turn, captain, major, brevet lieutenant colonel, lieutenant colonel, brevet colonel of the United States volunteers by the president, and brevet colonel of New York state troops by the governor. The brevet commissions of lieutenant colonel and colonel were conferred by President Lincoln. The commission of lieutenant colonel was conferred for conspicuous gallantry in action at Five Forks, and the commission of brevet colonel for meritorious services. Later a commission of brevet colonel of New York state volunteers was conferred by Governor Fenton for meritorious services during the war.

After the surrender of the confederate forces Colonel White marched with his troops from Burksville, Virginia, to Washington and participated in the grand review in May, 1865. After the review the Sixth and Fifteenth New York cavalry were consolidated under the name of Second provisional New York cavalry, and of this consolidated regiment Colonel White was in command. The regiment was sent by General Grant to Louisville, Kentucky, where the rebel forces were disbanding and marching home and where they were reported to be making trouble. Colonel White was mustered out with his regiment at Elmira, New York, on August 9, 1865.

After his discharge from the army Colonel White located at Shokan, Ulster county, New York, where he engaged in the lumber and mercantile business until 1876. Then he came west and stopped at St. Paul, where for a short time he was employed as a clerk in the office of the St. Paul & Sioux City Railroad company (now the Omaha). The branch line of that road had, in 1876, been extended west from Worthington to the little hamlet of Luverne, but the survey had been extended as far west as Sioux Falls, and Colonel White decided to locate and engage in business at some point west of Luverne. He then decided to build

the next station west of Luverne on Beaver creek, where the village of Beaver Creek is now situated, and at that point Colonel White located in the year 1877. He made a shipment of sixteen cars of lumber to the new station—the first shipment to Beaver Creek,—erected a two-story store building and residence, a flat grain house and opened a lumber yard, becoming the first business man and the founder of the village. Subsequently he built an elevator and engaged in the general merchandise, grain, live stock and farm implement business. He also enlarged his store building and built up an excellent general merchandise business, carrying a \$12,000 stock—the largest in the county at the time.

In the social, commercial and civic affairs of Beaver Creek Colonel White became prominent, as he did in the county at large. When it came time to incorporate the village he was chosen the first president of the council and he always took a loyal and prominent part in public affairs. In the early eighties Colonel White headed a campaign for the removal of the county seat from Luverne to Beaver Creek, and the fight was so vigorously waged that the erection of Rock county's present court house was made at that time.

The building of the Great Northern railroad between Beaver Creek and Valley Springs in 1889 reduced the trade territory of the former village and Colonel White foresaw the diminution of his business; he disposed of his interests there and in 1896 moved to Luverne. In the county seat town Colonel White engaged in the implement business, which he conducted until 1902, when he sold to his son, W. H. White. Since selling to his son he has been engaged in the real estate and insurance business.

In 1906 Colonel Harrison White was elected on the republican ticket to the Minnesota legislature and served one term. He was elected again in 1910 from the district composed of the counties of Rock and Pipestone. While in Beaver Creek he served as president of the village council several terms and he was president of the Luverne board of education from 1903 to 1906, resigning to assume his duties as a legislator. Our subject has taken an active and prominent part in the affairs of the Grand Army

of the Republic. He has held the offices of junior vice commander and senior vice commander of the Minnesota organization and in 1904 he was chosen commander of the department of Minnesota. As the head of the Minnesota G. A. R. Colonel White took his comrades to Boston at the national encampment in 1904 and in the grand parade he headed the Minnesota forces.

Colonel White was married at Shokan, New York, May 8, 1872, to Ella Bushnell. She was born at Bushnellville, New York, April 2, 1855, the daughter of A. B. Bushnell, who was a prominent merchant and tanner of that place. To Colonel and Mrs. White have been born eight children, of whom the following four are living: William H., Luverne business man; Grant A., who was graduated with the class of 1906 from the Minnesota state university, now residing at Cambridge, Massachusetts; Lucy J., who was graduated from the Minnesota university in 1910; Grace M., a student of the Luverne high school.

EUGENE N. DARLING (1868). The distinction of being Rock county's pioneer and its oldest inhabitant in point of actual continuous residence belongs to Eugene N. Darling, of Luverne. There were scarce a half dozen souls in the whole county when he first set foot within its borders, and of the very few who ventured to make their homes in the new southern Minnesota county before the year 1870 he is the sole survivor, excepting Mrs. Philo Hawes and Charles O. Hawes. The only settlers whose coming antedates that of Mr. Darling were the Estey family, who settled in Clinton township in 1867, and Philo Hawes, who first made the acquaintance of the region of his future home in 1867, at which time he was employed as the mail carrier between Blue Earth and Yankton. Mr. Hawes built an 8x10 claim shack during the year mentioned but it was not until the spring following that he effected a permanent settlement in Rock county. It was only a few months later, on October 27, 1868, that the subject of this review arrived in the land destined to be the scene of all his later activities.

Eugene N. Darling was born in the town of Borodino, Onondaga county, New York, to Jacob W. and Mary Hart (Buffington)

Darling, the former a native of Rhode Island, and the latter of Augusta, Maine. He was educated in Cortland academy and in the New York Central college, from which he was graduated in 1858. Our subject took up the profession of teaching, which he followed continuously for sixteen years in New York, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Minnesota.

In 1859 Mr. Darling located in Freeport, Illinois, which was his home for a number of years. While there he taught school, conducted an insurance agency, and was engaged in a number of other enterprises. He accompanied a surveying party engaged in the work of laying out a new railroad to Racine, Wisconsin, after which he moved to Elroy, Illinois, to accept a position as ticket agent of the station at that place. From Elroy he moved to Shakopee, Minnesota, in 1866, to become the local agent for the Minnesota Valley Railway company, a new road with a mileage of only twenty-eight miles at the time.

After two years' residence in Shakopee, Mr. Darling became a resident of Rock county. With two yoke of oxen and a yoke of cattle, accompanied by his family, he undertook the journey. On October 27, 1868, the Darlings reached the country which was to be their home for so many years. They halted on the ground on which a few years later was founded the village of Luverne. They made the acquaintance of Philo Hawes, who built the first human habitation in the future town, a log cabin near the site of the present Rock Island depot. Mr. Hawes extended to his new friends an invitation to pass the winter as his guests in the lone cabin on the wide expanse of prairie. The logs for the dwelling had already been laid and there remained only to put on the finishing touches. To complete the home Messrs. Hawes and Darling spent considerable time cutting timber in what was known as Round Grove on the Rock river a short distance to the south. The "shakes" from which the crude shingles were manufactured were cut from the soft maples that lined the river bank.

The winter of 1868-69 was an extremely severe one, and more snow fell than in any year since Rock county has been a seat of human habitation. In some places, according to Mr. Darling's recollections, the snow

was piled to a level of thirty-five feet and in the same vicinity it is known to have exceeded that depth by five and even more feet.

Our subject's family were guests at the Philo Hawes cabin until the fourth of April, 1869. Mr. Darling devoted himself as far as possible to the erection of a shanty on the land he had taken by "squatter's" right before the cold season set in. At that time the homestead act was not in operation in the new county, as the sectional survey had not been made, although the townships had previously been marked out. The land which he selected as his allotment consisted of a full quarter section located on either side of the line between the townships of Vienna and Magnolia. Eighty acres of this was located in Vienna, described as the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter and the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 31. The portion of the claim in Magnolia, also eighty acres, was the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter and the northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section 6.

The cabin of this pioneer was built on the portion lying in Vienna, but in the succeeding fall the home was established in Magnolia, and there it was that Mr. Darling and family resided continuously for nearly forty years, leaving the old farm in 1908 to commence a retired life in the city of Luverne. Six months after laying claim to his first quarter section our subject pre-empted 160 acres on the same section in Magnolia township, and both of these original claims Mr. Darling still retains title to, he being one of the very few of the original settlers of the county who can point to such a record.

Jackson, Fairmont, Sioux City and Sioux Falls were the nearest available trading points during the first few years of Mr. Darling's residence in Rock county. He came in for his share of the tribulations incident to the memorable grasshopper period, but, possessed of a determination not to be shattered, he bore the sufferings in patience and eventually reaped the deserved reward of prosperity. During his long residence in Magnolia township Mr. Darling was prominently identified with many movements of progress and took an active part in the civic and political affairs of his

community and county at large. He was honored by election to the board of county commissioners, served for a time as deputy treasurer, and for a total of twenty-two years he faithfully discharged the duties of clerk of the township board. He is a Mason by fraternal affiliation, and holds membership in the Lodge, Chapter and Commandary of the order. He was one of the charter members of the Blue Lodge of Luverne and was its first master, an office he held for a number of years.

In the town of his birth, Borodino, Onondaga county, New York, on March 10, 1863, Eugene N. Darling was joined in marriage to Jennie E. Hulce. Mrs. Darling's birth occurred on October 9, 1845. To these parents have been born the following named children: Guy F., born January 30, 1865, died November 18, 1894; May E. (Mrs. Charles Brockway), of Luverne, born April 19, 1866; Hattie M. (Mrs. Glen Brockway), of Royalton, Minnesota, born April 17, 1871; Ray Nelson, born September 28, 1874, died July 22, 1875; Winnefred, born July 30, 1876, died June 22, 1909; George C., who conducts the old homestead in Magnolia township, born October 6, 1878; Laura Elvira, born January 5, 1882, died December 18, 1894.

WILLIAM O. CRAWFORD (1872) is one of Rock county's citizens of sterling worth, a man who during his long residence, dating from the pioneer days of 1872, has given much of his time and energy in the furtherance of every project that has meant for a greater and better Rock county.

At Freedom, New York, on January 28, 1845, occurred the nativity of William O. Crawford. His parents were Isaac and Jane (Selfridge) Crawford, also natives of the Empire state. William was left fatherless at the age of seven years. After finishing the curriculum of the district school he was a student for five years at Rushford academy. The great sectional struggle was being waged while Mr. Crawford was yet in his teens. In January, 1864, he laid down his books and shouldered a musket as a volunteer in company D, One Hundred Seventy-Ninth New York infantry. He was taken prisoner at the disastrous battle of Petersburg. At the time of the mine explo-

sion, and the following year, he was wounded in the battle that resulted in the capture of Petersburg. He was discharged from the army on June 17, 1865, at the time being a patient in the Chestnut Hill hospital, at Philadelphia.

Upon the return of peace Mr. Crawford continued his educational career. He entered the university of Michigan and was graduated from the law department of that institution in 1869. Two years later, in search of a desirable location, he chanced to go to Luverne, and cared to proceed no further. The following spring he took as a homestead the southwest quarter of section 4, Martin township, and at the same time hung out his shingle in Luverne. He practiced his profession until 1876, when he was elected to the office of county auditor, which he ably filled for three terms. In 1882 he was chosen to represent his district in the state legislature and served in such capacity one term.

In the spring of 1883 Mr. Crawford departed on an extended trip to the Pacific coast, returning to Rock county in the fall. He took as a pre-emption the southeast quarter of section 20, Beaver Creek township, and resided on the place for nine years. His health having failed, in 1892 Mr. Crawford disposed of his farm and for six years thereafter he traveled widely over the states of Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin and Michigan, enjoying the novel experience of living two summers of that time in a covered wagon.

On returning to Beaver Creek in 1898, our subject bought back his place on section 20, and that has continued to be his home up to date, with the exception of the year 1903, which he spent at Caldwell, Idaho. He is now the owner of 200 acres of as finely improved land as can be found in the precinct. Mr. Crawford is an enthusiastic church worker and is a member of the Baptist denomination. Some twenty years ago he pursued a short course at the Baptist Theological seminary at Morgan Park, Illinois, and for a time filled the pulpit of the church at Beaver Creek. He was obliged to give up preaching because of the poor condition of his health.

On July 21, 1879, at Luverne, Mr. Crawford was joined in marriage to Martha E. Donaldson, the daughter of John R. and

Margaret A. (Waddell) Donaldson, natives of Virginia and Indiana, respectively. Mrs. Crawford was born in Baraboo, Wisconsin, November 16, 1852. She came to Rock county in 1873 and was engaged in teaching school until the year of her marriage. To this union have been born the following children: Calla, born February 5, 1881, died March 18, 1885; Margaret E., born November 23, 1882, died February 29, 1884; Paul, born March 19, 1885; Alice M., born October 4, 1888.

NIELS JACOBSON (1874) is an ex-member of the Minnesota house of representatives and a pioneer settler of Rock county. For many years he engaged in farming in Martin township and in recent years has lived a retired life in Hills. He is a native of Tellemarken, Norway, and was born March 3, 1844. His father, Jacob Abrahamson, died in Winneshiek county, Iowa, in 1879; his mother, Groe (Gjermunds) Abrahamson, died in the same Iowa county in 1882.

At the age of four years, in 1848, Niels Jacobson accompanied his parents to America and settled in Racine county, Wisconsin. Two years later the family moved to Winneshiek county, Iowa, which was then on the outskirts of civilization. Only a few families had preceded the Abrahamsons to Winneshiek county, and Decorah, now a thriving little city, had a population of only three families. In that frontier region young Jacobson grew to manhood, attending the district schools and working on the farm. He completed his education with a short term in Augustana college, Chicago.

On October 11, 1862, Mr. Jacobson enlisted in company D, of the Sixth Iowa volunteer cavalry, and served an enlistment of three years, having been mustered out at Sioux City, Iowa, October 17, 1865. His entire service was in the Indian campaigns in the Dakotas. He participated in the battle of White Stone Hill on September 3, 1863, in the battle known to history as Tah-kak-o-kuty on July 28, 1864, and in the battle of the Bad Lands on August 8 and 9, 1864.

After the war Mr. Jacobson bought land in Winneshiek county and engaged in farming there until 1874. In May, 1873, he filed a homestead claim to the northwest quarter

of section 20, Martin township, and on the sixteenth day of February, 1874, he set out for his new home. He traveled overland and brought a load of machinery and other goods for his new home. He encountered severe weather, for three days was obliged to lay up at Blue Earth City on account of a snow storm, and at times suffered severely from snow blindness. After a journey of 250 miles, he arrived at Luverne March 30, 1874. He erected a sod claim shanty on his homestead, and a little later put up a 12x18 feet board shanty, in which he lived two years. That gave way to a more pretentious house. Mr. Jacobson encountered the usual hardships of pioneer days and had many of the experiences that tried men's souls. From his old home he brought a small sblacksmith's outfit, and in the early days he worked some at the trade for the benefit of his neighbors. In 1879 he invented a feed mill, constructed of native stone, and thereafter he manufactured and sold quite a number. Although the mill was built on a principle never before used and proved a success, the idea was not patented by the inventor. Mr. Jacobson lived on his homestead and engaged in farming until 1908, when he retired from active pursuits and located in Hills. He still owns the farm upon which he lived for so many years.

On several occasions Mr. Jacobson has been called upon to serve in an official capacity. He was a member of the board of county commissioners in 1876, having been elected to fill a vacancy. For several years he was a member of the Martin township board of supervisors and for one year was the precinct assessor. In 1902 he was elected a member of the lower house of the Minnesota legislature on the republican ticket and was re-elected in 1904, serving four years as one of Minnesota's law makers.

The subject of this review was married in Winneshiek county, Iowa, May 14, 1866, to Sarah Sexe, who was born in Norway August 5, 1845, and who came to the United States in 1857. To these parents have been born the following named five children: J. N., of Hills, born August 6, 1867; Julia G. (Mrs. O. R. Sletten), of Des Moines, Iowa, born March 3, 1870; Margaret L. (Mrs. Otto Sather), of Martin township, born September 13, 1873; Theodore, of Martin township,

born June 6, 1875; Helga C. (Mrs. Hans Nordby), of Hills, born October 13, 1879.

RASMUS HALVORSON (1873) is one of Rock county's most prosperous and successful agriculturists and one of its early day settlers. He lives on the northeast quarter of section 12, Mound township, land he homesteaded in 1873. His well-improved farm and elegant residence are unequalled in the precinct. Mr. Halvorson farms two of the seven quarter sections he owns and is an extensive breeder of high grade stock. Besides his present land holdings he has relinquished claim to three other quarter sections to his children. And this man came to Rock county penniless thirty-eight years ago.

Hollingdahl, Norway, is the birthplace of Rasmus Halvorson, the event of his nativity having occurred on the nineteenth of May, 1850. Both his father and mother, Halvor and Haldes (Olson) Rasmussen, passed away in Rock county, the former in 1906 and the latter just fifteen years previous. Our subject was brought up and received a meager education in the village of his birth. The family were poor and at the early age of eight he was forced contribute towards his own support. The first occupation the boy obtained was that of herding stock.

Rasmus was a youth of nineteen when in 1869 he left the Norwegian vales and became an adopted son of Uncle Sam. He resided for a short period in Allamakee county, Iowa, and went from there to Fayette county, of the same state, where he was employed four years as a farm hand. While there he was joined by his parents, who journeyed from Norway to the United States in the spring of 1870. A determination to settle in the new Rock county, Minnesota, was carried into effect. The family made the trip from Iowa to the land of promise via the ox team route, and arrived at their destination on June 18, 1873. Claim was at once laid to the homestead on section 12.

Those early days brought hardships and calamities to the Halvorson family, as well as to many others of the heroic pioneers. The home the first summer was merely a covered wagon out on the dreary prairie. When fall came a little 12x14 feet board

shanty covered with sod was erected, and for nearly two years that answered the purpose of a dwelling. The timber for the structure was obtained from Lost Timber, in Murray county, supplemented by a few board secured at Worthington. Settlers in the vicinity were few and scattered, and none at all were to be found to the north of this pioneer family.

The old sod house gave way to a log cabin, which was purchased near Luverne and moved to the homestead in Mound, and greatly did it add to the conveniences of the homesteader's family. The grasshopper scourge with its attendant anxieties came and occasioned untold suffering in the land—then in its formative stage. None was spared, all the brave hearts were made to experience the bitter sting. Crops were repeated failures, and to obtain the bare necessities of life, Mr. Halvorson was forced to other expedients than grain cultivation. He managed by sacrifice to come into possession of an extra yoke of oxen, and assisted by the faithful beasts he was able to earn a pittance by breaking the prairie land for the later arrivals. There were three months during those troublesome times that Mr. Halvorson never possessed a cent, not even enough to mail a letter if he had so desired.

Experiences with the dread prairie fires and fearful blizzard were not few. On one occasion, in the winter of 1876, only for the sagacity of his ox team, Mr. Halvorson would never have lived to enjoy the brighter days of sunshine which were to come as the just reward of perseverance and industry. Mr. Halvorson was driving home from Luverne when he was suddenly overtaken by a raging blizzard. He was rendered powerless and it was only through the intervention of fortune that he was saved from a bitter death. Whether by chance or by judgment, the oxen finally brought up against the sod stable on the homestead.

Just a month previous to settling in Rock county, Rasmus Halvorson chose a faithful wife, one who has since shared alike his trials and triumphs. He was married in Fayette county, Iowa, May 15, 1873, to Lizzie Thorson, who was born in that Iowa county on the second of April, 1854. She is the daughter of Thor and Leve (Engbretson)

Thorson, both deceased. Six sons and five daughters have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Halvorson, and their names are as follows: Henry, who farms the southwest quarter of section 32, Battle Plain township, born April 24, 1874; Elizabeth, born February 5, 1876, died August 26, of the same year; Theodore, who resides at home, born January 26, 1878; Ole, a Denver township farmer, born September 22, 1879; Lizzie (Mrs. P. W. Gerhart), of Seattle, Washington, born February 26, 1882; Willie, born January 23, 1884; Hattie, born March 16, 1886; Alfred, born May 20, 1888; Lillian, born May 10, 1890; Stella, born July 5, 1892; Leonard, born January 27, 1896. The last six named are all living at home.

Mr. Halvorson has from the very earliest actively interested himself in all matters of local import and has on repeated occasions been honored with election to offices of trust in the management of the township and its interests. With his family he is a staunch member of the Synod Norwegian Lutheran church of Luverne. He was one of the charter members of that organization and has held various church offices.

CHARLES A. REYNOLDS (1871). Among the best known pioneer settlers of Rock county is Charles A. Reynolds, of Luverne, who has a residence of forty years to his credit—a man whose life has been very active in the affairs of the county and who has been closely associated with the history making events of pioneer days. After having spent many years of his life as a farmer and county officer, Mr. Reynolds now lives a retired life in the county seat town.

It was in Columbia county, New York, on the fourth day of March, 1840, that Charles A. Reynolds was born. In his native county he spent the first sixteen years of his life, securing an education and making his home with his parents. In 1856 he came west with the family and settled in Buchanan county, Iowa. For four years he lived at home and worked on farms in the vicinity, then for several years he engaged in teaching school in Butler and Blackhawk counties, thereafter he engaged in various occupations, selling pumps for a time and engaging in the livery business. In 1870

he was conducting a grocery store at Parkersburg, Butler county, Iowa.

Disposing of his interests in Iowa, Mr. Reynolds came to Rock county, arriving in May, 1871. At the time of his arrival the only buildings in Luverne were a log house near the present location of the Rock Island depot, owned by Philo Hawes, and a log building owned by P. J. Kniss, on the site of C. S. Bruce's present residence. It was largely through the recommendations of Mr. Reynolds that many German families located in the townships of Luverne, Beaver Creek and Clinton that year. He spoke very favorably of the country to his old neighbors in Butler county, Iowa, and many came to the new country as a result of his words of praise.

Upon his arrival to Rock county in the spring of 1871, Mr. Reynolds took as a pre-emption claim the northeast quarter of section 30, Mound township, upon which he lived three years. He lost his buildings by fire, then sold the land and took homestead and timber claims on section 2, Springwater township. He built a home there and continued to make his home on the homestead twenty years.

During the early years Mr. Reynolds suffered many hardships incident to pioneer life in Rock county, not the least of which were grasshopper invasions. The grasshoppers damaged his crops first in 1873, while he was living in Mound township, but the damage was not great that year. In 1875 he escaped the pests and reports that his wheat averaged nineteen bushels to the acre that year. Mr. Reynolds had many adventures in the fierce winter storms of the early days. He says there are three dates that will never be effaced from his memory. They are the blizzards of March, 1871, of January 7 to 9, 1873, and the winter of the deep snow—1880-81. In the blizzard of January, 1873, Mr. Reynolds was caught in the storm and was unable to return home for several days. On the morning of the seventh he started from home with a team with the intention of going to the home of Fred Kothe, in Martin township, a distance of nine miles. The morning was a beautiful one and the snow on the ground was melting. Between ten and eleven o'clock he stopped at the home of a Mr. Loose, on section 30, Luverne township, to dry his feet.

While he was in the house the wind suddenly changed to the northwest and the blizzard struck in all its fury. He could go no farther and here he remained three days. His wife and seven year old boy were left on the home place with the stock to care for. The home of Mr. Loose was a twelve by fifteen feet shack, and the snow completely covered it, so that the men were obliged to dig their way out after the blizzard stopped.

Mr. Reynolds continued to make his home on the Springwater farm until 1893. That year he rented the farm and located in Luverne, which has since been his home. In recent years he has retired from active pursuits. For several years he was manager of the Morgan Horse company and took an active interest in breeding and training track horses. Our subject owns 340 acres of land in Springwater township and residence property in the village of Luverne.

In the political life of Rock county Mr. Reynolds has always been active and many times he has been called upon to serve in an official capacity. In the spring of 1874 he was appointed a member of the board of county commissioners to fill a vacancy, and that fall he was elected to the office and served a three-year term. He was elected to the same office in 1886 and served four years. Again in 1908 he became a county commissioner, serving one year to complete the unexpired term of John Houg. During the years 1874 to 1877, inclusive, Mr. Reynolds was chairman of the board. During the time Mr. Reynolds was chairman of the board the bonds were voted to aid in the construction of the Worthington & Sioux Falls railroad through the county—Rock county's first railroad—and it was because of Mr. Reynold's firmness that the bonds were not turned over to the railroad company until the road was completed and trains running. Our subject was also a member of the county board when the present court house was erected, a board which holds the record of being the only known one which erected a county building for less money than the amount of bonds voted for the purpose.

Besides his position on the county board, Mr. Reynolds has held other offices of trust. He was clerk of Springwater township and he took the first assessment of the north half of Rock county. In 1909 he was ap-

pointed by the tax commission to reassess the township of Springwater and he performed his duties in a highly acceptable manner. On April 11, 1911, Mr. Reynolds was appointed city assessor by the Luverne common council.

The father of our subject was Lester Reynolds, who was born in the same house in which his son was born, in Columbia county, New York. Lester Reynolds was the son of a farmer and grew to manhood on a farm. He married Anna Mosher, a native of Hudson, Columbia county, New York, and in 1856 came west and located in Buchanan county, Iowa. There parents moved to Luverne in 1897 and died in that city, the mother in 1902, aged eighty-three years, and the father in 1905, aged eighty-nine years. There were two children in the family, Charles A. and N. R. Reynolds, both residents of Luverne.

In Butler county, Iowa, on July 7, 1864, Mr. Reynolds was united in marriage to Julia A. Burgess, who was born in Chautauqua county, New York, September 5, 1844, and who died October 9, 1892. Three children were born to this union, as follows: Fred C., of Wales, Cavalier county, North Dakota; Anna (Mrs. T. L. Ness), of St. Cloud, Minnesota; Bertha Reynolds, bookkeeper for the White Mercantile company, of White, South Dakota. The second marriage of Mr. Reynolds occurred in Luverne in 1895, when he wedded Bereth Johnson, who was born in Norway September 14, 1841.

TOLLEF O. OPSATA (1870). Picture a wide sweeping expanse of treeless prairie, utterly exposed to the fury of the inconsiderate elements, unpeopled except by a few hardy pioneers, indeed, a scene of desolation in the extreme! Rock county was such forty-one years ago when first gazed upon by the earliest of her pioneers, men of fortitude and valor, prepared to wrest the hidden fruits from a wilderness which had long awaited the coming of the conquerors. Of one of these men of unselfish devotion to duty and of sterling manhood, we are permitted to write. Tollef O. Opsata, one of the makers of Vienna township, yet resides in peaceful old age and blessed with the rewards of a successful

career on the old homestead taken in young manhood, the southwest quarter of section 22.

A native of Norway, Tollef O. Opsata was born in Hollingdahl on the second of September, 1845, the son of Ole and Annie (Kjeldergard) Opsata. Ole Opsata, who was born in 1815, came to the United States in 1866, and died in Tennessee, where is also buried his faithful wife, who passed away in 1900.

Tollef was reared on his father's farm and received a common school education in his native land. It was in the first year of his manhood that he crossed the Atlantic and with his parents made settlement in the new world. For a few months the family lived in Mitchell county, Iowa, and then moved to Emmett county, in the same state, where they resided four years, or until coming to Rock county in 1870. It was in May, 1871 that a party of Norwegians, which consisted of Ole T. Opsata, his wife and six children, whose names were Tollef O., Thorston O., Nels, Ole, Marget and Gusta; and Swen Sanderson, Ole Nelson and Ole T. Berg, journeyed from Iowa to establish homes in the new Rock county. All took homesteads in Vienna township.

Our subject took as his allotment the southwest quarter of section 22, but for the first year lived with his parents, who took a claim near by. The first few years were fraught with innumerable hardships and adversities. That first winter the family lived almost entirely upon fish caught in the river. In order to provide themselves with the necessities of life, Tollef and his brother Ole were forced to return to their old home in Emmett county, Iowa, to seek work. The whole journey was made on foot. There was a fairly good crop in 1872, but the dark days of the grasshopper scourge fell upon the land, with many attendant sufferings.

The sum total of Mr. Opsata's worldly possessions on arriving in Rock county were six dollars in cash and a two year old heifer. The first pretense of a home on his claim was a dug-out, which was located on the high bank of the creek. The second year saw constructed a 10x12 feet log hut with a sod roof. But better days were to come, and a finely improved farm with its comfortable and adequate build-

ings now grace the once desolate scene. Mr. Opsata served for three years as a director of school district No. 29. He is a member of the Blue Mounds Norwegian Lutheran church.

The daughter of another of Vienna township's pioneers, Ole Berg, became the wife of Tollef O. Opsata. He married Annie Berg on December 5, 1873. She was born in Norway April 7, 1854, and came to the United States with her parents at the age of fifteen years. Ole Berg now resides at Hills. To Mr. and Mrs. Opsata were born the following six children, all of whom are living: Olaf, a grain buyer of Faulkton, South Dakota, born September 24 1874; Oscar, at home, born February 12, 1877; Sophie (Mrs. Wilson Abbott), of Worthington, born October 30, 1879; Julia, of Luverne, born October 29, 1881; Millie, of Worthington, born July 20, 1886; Theodore, at home, born May 13, 1888.

BISHOP I. CROSSMAN (1871), deceased, was one of the early day settlers of Beaver Creek township and resided on his old homestead until his death on April 11, 1911. He was born in Essex county, New York, August 20, 1836, and when a boy moved to Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, where he resided fifteen years. He came to Rock county in the fall of 1871, when his earthly possessions consisted only of a team and a few dollars, and took as a homestead claim the southeast quarter of section 26, Beaver Creek township, where he ever after resided and which his son now farms.

On the homestead Mr. Crossman built a little sod shanty, in one side of which his horses had their quarters, while the family occupied the other part of the buildings. The hard times incident to the grasshopper scourge brought many hardships to the family, but they stayed with the county and weathered the storms of adversity. In 1876 Mr. Crossman drove to Sioux City and secured cottonwood shoots, which he planted and which grew to the present magnificent grove on the farm. In 1908 his son cut and sawed 11,000 feet of lumber from these trees, and the big barn on the farm was constructed from the lumber.

The wife of Mr. Crossman was Mary J. Brooks. She was born in Syracuse, New

York, in 1841, and died August 7, 1908. There are eight children in the family, named as follows: Anna (Mrs. Arthur Dike), of Beaver Creek township; Edwin, of Airlie, Minnesota; Seward, of Creston, South Dakota; Elma (Mrs. G. H. Rowley), of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Charles, of Pipestone; Carrie (Mrs. Willis Cole), of Alberta, Canada; Mattie (Mrs. Albert Hart), of Fedora, South Dakota; George H., who conducts the home farm.

JACOB MERKEL (1872), ex-county commissioner and for nearly forty years an honored citizen of Rock county and Beaver Creek township, has since 1900 made his home in the village of Beaver Creek. Despite his advanced age, Mr. Merkel is actively engaged in the threshing business, a line of work he has followed every season without interruption for the past fifty years. It is a record that very few, if any, living men in the country can boast of. His son, Lycurgus, is associated with him in the management of his interests.

Mr. Merkel is a son of the Buckeye state. He was born in Summit county, Ohio, December 29, 1840. He was a youth of sixteen summers when he moved with his parents to Minnesota, which at that time was for the most part little better than an untamed wilderness. The family settled in Rice county, where our subject first entered on the career in which he was to achieve distinction. In the fall of 1871 he moved to Blue Earth and the next year Jacob Merkel became a member of the heroic band of Rock county pioneers. He filed a homestead claim to the northeast quarter of section 21, Beaver Creek township, which he thoroughly improved, and made his home there until he became a resident of Beaver Creek village eleven years ago. In common with others, he suffered the trials and discomforts occasioned by the crop failures for which the most formidable of all the early settlers' enemies—the grasshopper—was responsible. To the late P. J. Kniss, of Luverne, he gives great credit for timely aid at that critical period.

For twelve years Mr. Merkel presided as chairman over the sessions of the Beaver Creek township board of supervisors, and for a term of four years he faithfully repre-

sented Springwater and Beaver Creek townships on the board of county commissioners. Our subject was married at Faribault, Minnesota, October 21, 1866, to Elizabeth N. Dunn. Mrs. Merkel was a native of Washington county, Iowa, and died in 1895, at the age of fifty-one years. Two children were born to this union: Lycurgus, of Beaver Creek; and Cora (Mrs. Earl Coss), of Luverne.

JAY LADUE (1885). For more than a quarter of a century the gentleman whose name heads this sketch has been a resident of Rock county, and there is probably no man in the county who enjoys a larger acquaintanceship in this vicinity and the country at large than he. He has taken a prominent part in many lines of endeavor, and the county of Rock is indebted to him for many things that have tended to its betterment.

Jay LaDue is the sixth child in a family of thirteen children. Eight of the children are still living and their average age is more than seventy-five years. He was born in Chautauqua county, New York, April 7, 1827. He secured his education in the common schools of his native county and in Mayville academy. At the age of fourteen years, in the year 1841, he left his father's home on the farm to begin an apprenticeship of five years at the tailor's trade, with the privilege of attending school three months each year. He completed his apprenticeship and in 1846 went to Fredonia, in Chautauqua county, and for two years worked as a journeyman tailor.

In 1848 Mr. LaDue engaged in business on his own account, forming a partnership with F. P. Isherwood in the merchant tailoring business in Fredonia and was a member of the firm until 1851. That year he located in Sherman, New York, where he conducted a merchant tailoring and gentlemen's furnishing goods store until the spring of 1857. In the spring of 1853, soon after the inauguration of Franklin Pierce as president of the United States, Mr. LaDue was appointed postmaster of Sherman and served a four-year term.

Deciding to take Horace Greeley's advice to "go west and grow up with the coun-

try," he resigned the office of postmaster in the spring of 1857, spent some time arranging his business matters and early in 1858 located in the city of Rochester, in the then territory of Minnesota. He conducted a merchant tailoring establishment in that city until 1862, when, owing to poor health he closed out his business and joined the great army of commercial travelers. During one of his business trips to Luverne, in or about 1876, he contracted with the railroad company for a section of land near Luverne. In 1885, when they began to call him the "old man," he resigned his position on the road, disposed of his property interests in Rochester, and settled on his Rock county farm.

This was a radical change from his heretofore active life. From the tailor, the merchant, the salesman on the road for twenty-five years, to a Rock county farmer! But he soon adapted himself to the changed conditions and made a decided success of his farming, as he had of his other business ventures. He engaged extensively in the breeding of fancy stock and became famous as the owner of the great brood mare "Bell," whose colts brought him at the farm from \$600 to \$3000 each.

One of the colts became world famous. In two short seasons on the track in different countries in Europe, the colt, "Polly" by name, won \$150,000 in purses. After this feat the Russian government, proud of their Orloffs as long distance race horses, and jealous of the American trotter who had won everything in sight, in Germany, Austria and France, offered a thousand rubles, in addition to large purses, for any American-bred horse that would come to Moscow and compete with the famous Orloff in three two-mile heats and the sweepstakes. The owner of "Polly" (the daughter of "Belle" and "Hamdallah") accepted their challenge, and "Polly" met the famous horses in Moscow, won the three straight heats and the sweepstakes and was awarded the large purses that were put up for each. The trainer and driver of "Polly" then presented his claim for the four gold medals offered by the Russian government, one for the winner of each of the three races and one for the horse that won the sweepstakes. But the Russian government said, "No, these medals

were awarded by the Russian government to the breeder of the winning horse."

Mr. LaDue was quick to respond with the proof that he was the breeder of "Polly" and the four large gold medals, that weighed out \$400, were sent to the proprietor of what was thereafter known as the "Gold Medal" farm in Luverne. These medals were placed on exhibition at the Minnesota state fairs, at many of the county fairs of the state, and in 1893 at the World's Columbian Exposition at Chicago. At that exposition "Old Belle" and seven of her kin were entered in the various classes, and nearly \$1000 was awarded to this string of horses from the Rock county farm, while "Polly," the queen-bee of the family, was in Europe, resting on the laurels she had won from the czar of all the Russias. There never was a horse which so extensively advertised its owner, its county, its state, the United States, and the whole continent of Europe, as this great mare "Polly" did. She had a four-mile record to a standing start, hauling 300 pounds weight, of ten minutes and five seconds—the fastest four-mile record in the world at the time it was made, and it may be the record yet.

After locating on his Rock county farm Mr. LaDue became interested in his new line of business and took an active part in the affairs of the county. He was instrumental in forming the non-partisan Farmer's Alliance club of Rock county, and was elected and served as its president three or four years. It was formed as a non-partisan organization strictly, devoted to the interests of the farmers in this great agricultural state, but when its growth had reached great proportions the politicians, against Mr. LaDue's advice and judgment, succeeded in turning the Alliance club into a political party.

In politics Mr. LaDue, in the early days, was prominent and active. In 1890 the farmers alliance and democratic parties nominated him for the office of state senator, the nomination was ratified by the people at the polls, and he represented his district in the senate for the next four years. In 1892 he was appointed by Gov. Merriam one of the six members of the Minnesota State Board of World's Fair Managers, and

he served as vice president of the board throughout the fair.

For a number of years Mr. LaDue has not been active in business, having retired to private life and turned over to his sons the management of the business enterprises that he inaugurated in Rock county in the early days. He now enjoys the fruits of a hard-working well-spent life.

Jay LaDue was married in the fall of 1851 to Janette, the third daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John B. Buel, of Mayville, New York, the county seat of Chautauqua county. Mr. LaDue has always been prominently identified with church work, and it was largely due to her efforts that the Luverne Episcopal church was organized. Mr. and Mrs. LaDue are the parents of the following named children: C. M. and Lamott LaDue, of Luverne, who carry on the business built up by their father; John J. LaDue, who is engaged in the grain business in Chicago and Kasota, this state; Mabel LaDue, who resides with her parents; and A. D. LaDue, president of the First National Bank of Luverne.

ROBERT C. NORTON (1869) came to Rock county in the days of 1869 when a boy twelve years of age and is one of the county's respected citizens. He lives on and farms successfully the southwest quarter of section 6, Magnolia township, a couple of miles east of Luverne.

The father of our subject, Sylvester Norton, is a well known character in Rock county's eventful history. A native of Oneida county, New York, is his young manhood he moved to Pennsylvania, from there to Ohio and later to Missouri. During the civil war he served in a Missouri regiment under the stars and the stripes of the union army. After the war he set up a home for his family in LeSueur county, Minnesota, at that time a new and undeveloped country. In 1868 Mr. Norton with several others undertook a journey to southern Minnesota in quest of some suitable location where they might establish homes. Traversing what is now Rock county, Mr. Norton became impressed with the winding Rock river and its abundance of timber, and he decided upon a location in its immediate vicinity. He homesteaded the south-

west quarter of section 6, Magnolia township, and, moving his family there the following year, made that place his home up to the time of his death in 1909. His wife, Elizabeth (Mingus) Norton, a native of Ohio, died November 12, 1905.

It was while the family were living in Ross county, Ohio, that Robert Norton of this sketch was born April 3, 1857. When a child of four he accompanied his parents to the new home in Missouri and in 1866, the date of the family's arrival in Lesueur county, his career as a Minnesotan began. In September, 1869, the father moved his family to the homestead in Magnolia township. The removal was a long and tedious task. The cattle, hogs and sheep had to be driven the entire distance from Lesueur county, while the passenger accommodations via wagon route were not of the best. The first few years' residence in Rock county were fraught with hardship and discouragement. The blight followed the bitter days of the grasshopper scourge and the danger of the prairie fire was a source of constant anxiety. But brighter and well-earned prosperous days came to the gallant pioneers, and today the fruits of undaunted perseverance are enjoyed in full measure by the posterity.

Robert Norton grew to manhood on the old homestead; then he rented a part of his father's farm and engaged in farming for himself. In 1888 he went to Moody county, South Dakota, proved up on a claim, sold out, and returned to Rock county at the end of two years. He bought 120 acres of Magnolia township's soil, which was later increased by eighty acres from the original homestead, which now makes a total of 200 acres farmed by our subject.

Mr. Norton was married on February 28, 1888, near Flandreau, South Dakota, to Matilda Rule, a native of Lafayette county, Wisconsin. To this union two children have been born, Floyd Judson, on March 29, 1889, and Hazel Elizabeth, on August 23, 1895. Mr. Norton is one of the directors of school district No. 6 and has served in the same capacity on several previous occasions. He also served the district as treasurer two terms. Mr. Norton and family are members of the Baptist church of Luverne.

JAMES P. KENNEDY (1876), president of the Hardwick village council, is one of the early day settlers of Rock county, in which he has lived since eight years of age. He was born in Clayton county, Iowa, January 24, 1868. In 1876 he moved with his parents to Rock county and located in Mound township, which was the family home for eight years. Then a removal was made to a farm near Trosky, Pipestone county, where James assisted in its cultivation and management until 1891. That year he returned to Rock county and bought the southwest quarter of section 25, Denver township, which is within the incorporated limits of the village of Hardwick. He and his brother, Thomas F. Kennedy, were partners in the purchase of the farm. They conducted it on a large scale and were extensive feeders of stock, adding to the original purchase until they owned over a section of land in one body. Seven years ago they divided their property and real estate, James P. Kennedy retaining the home place, upon which he has since resided.

He is the son of Thomas Kennedy, who moved from Iowa to Rock county in 1876. He bought land, upon which he lived for several years, and then moved to Pipestone county and homesteaded a quarter section. He resided on the Pipestone county farm until the spring of 1892, when he moved to Hardwick, where he has since made his home with his son James.

In Luverne on May 3, 1894, Mr. Kennedy was married to Susan Kean, a native of Allamakee county, Iowa, where she was born in 1877. They are the parents of three children: Emmitt, Leo and Regenia.

With the exception of one year, Mr. Kennedy has been a member of the village council since the incorporation of the town, and for the past three years has served as the president of that body. For twelve years he has been a member of the board of education. The elegant new school house was erected on land formerly owned by Kennedy Brothers. They platted the Kennedy addition of two blocks to the village of Hardwick in 1902. Mr. Kennedy is a charter member of Modern Woodmen Camp No. 3851, of Hardwick, and also belongs to the K. C. and the Catholic church.

WILLIAM JACOBSEN (1872), deceased. Luverne was a small, struggling prairie hamlet, but a short time founded, when a young man of determination and energy moved there from eastern Iowa and established himself as one of the few men of business of the town, with which he was destined to be prominently identified. That man was William Jacobsen, pioneer merchant, successful banker and public-spirited citizen. At the time of his death, which occurred on August 21, 1905, he was president of the First National Bank, one of the strong and substantial financial institutions of this section of the state.

A native of Norway, William Jacobsen was born September 7, 1844. In his native land he was educated and grew to manhood, departing from the northern shores at the age of twenty-one to seek a field for future accomplishment in the new world to the west. He was left an orphan at an early age and with his twin brother he was left entirely alone in the world, having not a single near relative to whom to look for kindness or assistance. He was in every sense of the word a self-made man, and one who conquered over many odds in preparation for the shaping of a successful and useful career.

The young Norwegian selected as the field for his earlier activities in the United States the state of Iowa, and more particularly the county of Allamakee. With an eager desire for learning and for the purpose of acquiring a firmer grasp of the tongue of his adopted country, he secured a place to work for his board near the town of Lansing, while attending the district school. Mr. Jacobsen taught school for a number of terms in Allamakee county and then secured his first acquaintance with business life as a clerk in a general store at Waukon. He then went to Madison, Wisconsin, and enrolled for a course in a commercial school.

By frugal industry he accumulated a few hundred dollars, and with this meager capital he set forth to seek what Fortune had in store for him in the new Rock county of Minnesota. It was in the spring of 1872 that our subject arrived in Luverne, the home of his future years. In partnership with A. Bartlett, he established himself in the general mercantile business in a

small building on a site one block west of the present Heinz blacksmith shop. Several years later Mr. Bartlett died and Mr. Jacobsen succeeded to his partner's interest in the business, which he conducted many years. He quickly outgrew his original quarters and eventually he built and occupied the building which now houses the business of the Luverne Mercantile company.

Prosperity came as a reward of merit to Mr. Jacobsen. In 1885, on returning from a trip to the scenes of his youth in Norway, he was instrumental in the organization of the Rock County Bank, of which he became the president. In the early nineties he disposed of his interests in that institution and devoted himself exclusively to the real estate business for a year or more. He then became heavily interested in the First National Bank, of which he was made president, the high position he held until his activities were cut short by death. Under Mr. Jacobsen the First National Bank entered upon a new era of prosperity, which has ever been increasing under the present management. At the time of his death William Jacobsen was one of the large property owners of Luverne. He served as a member of the board of education thirteen years. He was a prominent Mason and a charter member of Ben Franklin Lodge No. 114, A. F. & A. M.

At Luverne, on May 15, 1877, Milla C. Erickson, a native of Allamakee county, Iowa, became the wife of William Jacobsen, and to this union eight children were born, one of whom, Lula, died in infancy. Those surviving are Effie (Mrs. C. H. Cristopherson), of Luverne; William, Jr., cashier of the First National Bank; Dr. Leonard, of Seattle, Washington; Walter, assistant cashier of the First National Bank of Howard, South Dakota; Nora, a North Dakota school teacher; Jessie and Milton.

NELS IVERSON (1871) is one of Rock county's pioneers who suffered in the adverse times of the grasshopper scourge and other dire calamities of the early days, but he never lost hope and today enjoys the reward of persevering toil and has had many seasons of bountiful harvest. He was born in Vang, Valdres, Norway, on April

28, 1845. His parents, Iver Olson and Anna (Myre) Sondral, were small farmers in the land of the Norse.

Mr. Iverson was educated in the common schools of his native country and in the first year of his manhood came alone to seek his fortune in the new world. A three years' residence in Decorah, Iowa, was broken by an eight months' sojourn in the pineries of Wisconsin. He next came to Minnesota, the scene of his subsequent activities. He worked at farm labor in Freeborn county, was married there, and in 1871 joined the vanguard of Martin township pioneers. He took as a homestead claim the southwest quarter of section 27, which has been his home from that day to this. Mr. Iverson was a faithful member of the township board for fourteen years and was a director of school district No. 66 for three years. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Mercantile company of Hills, and in the co-operative creamery at that point. With his family he is a member of the Synod Norwegian Lutheran church.

At St. Ansgar, Iowa, on July 16, 1868, Nels Iverson was married to Rangde Olson Ellingbo. She was born November 4, 1849, and is the daughter of Ole and Engebor (Anderson) Ellingbo, both deceased. To this union were born twelve children, including two pair of twins, and of the family seven are still living. The family register gives the following record: Ingeborg, born May 23, 1869, died July 27, 1909; Anne, born June 26, 1872; Ida M., born December 10, 1874, died August 9, 1899; Iver, born November 19, 1877; Ole, born January 15, 1881; Dora, born October 9, 1882, died September 7, 1896; Bertha, born April 27, 1885; Nels R. and Randi N. (twins), born April 17, 1887, the last named dying September 15, 1888; Ragndi N. and Andrew T. (twins), born July 15, 1889, the latter of whom died September 7, 1889; Amanda T., born July 8, 1893.

ABRAHAM JAYCOX (1876). One of the grand old men of Rock county, whose long life has been one of invaluable service to his country, his community and his fellow citizens, is the gentleman whose name heads this review. He has proven himself

a valiant soldier in times of war and a useful citizen in the calmer hours of peace.

Abraham Jaycox is a native of Putnam county, New York. There, also, his father and mother, John and Elizabeth (Garson) Jaycox, were born before him. John Jaycox died on the old homestead, upon which our subject was reared, after he had lived out the appointed four score of years. Abraham was born on the eighteenth of September, 1829. He attended the district schools and faithfully remained by his aged parents until he had reached the age of 27. Then the lure of the west beckoned him. The wild and primitive Minnesota of the fifties had just begun to feel the first refining touch of civilization. It was a land only for those of sturdy heart. Of such a stamp were the pioneers, and among those who left the milder life of the seaboard states to hew a civilization out of the wilderness with its many terrors was Abraham Jaycox. Fillmore county was his goal, and there in Preston township he settled on a pre-emption claim of eighty acres and made his home for twenty years. He added 100 acres to the original plat and wrought marvelous changes in a land which was slow to yield to the crude implements of the pioneer. In 1876 he disposed of his ownings in Fillmore county and joined the vanguard of settlers who were to sow the fruits of prosperity in Rock county. He established a home on the north half of the northwest quarter of section 13, Luverne township, and there he has continued to reside to the present day.

At the call for volunteers to preserve the union in the great sectional struggle, Mr. Jaycox laid down the pruning hook and shouldered the musket. He enlisted in company E, Seventh Minnesota, on August 15, 1862, and served continuously until mustered out at Fort Snelling on August 16, 1865. He served under Major Rusk and for one year acted as ward master. During the first part of his career as a soldier he was stationed at Madelia and New Ulm and participated in several of the bloody battles with the redskins. He was present at the execution of the thirty-eight Sioux Indians at Mankato on December 26, 1862. He also saw service in the battles of Tuplo, Nashville and Spanish Ford.

Mr. Jaycox's wedded life began in Put-

nam county, New York, where he was united in marriage to Nancy Lefarge, the daughter of William Lefarge. To the esteemed couple ten children have been born—seven daughters and three sons—all but two, Francis Everet, who was born May 31, 1872, and who died in December, and Addia Gusta, born August 11, 1874, died August 12, 1900, are still living. The children are: Catherine Jane (Mrs. C. J. Allen), of Luverne, born February 29, 1856; Garrison L., of Pipestone, born July 16, 1858; Flabia, of Los Angeles, California, born June 24, 1860; Susan (Mrs. F. M. Gillard), of Creslow, Iowa, born April 26, 1862; Abraham Lincoln, born April 29, 1865; Minnie (Mrs. F. M. Cook), of St. Paul, born July 20, 1867; Sarah, of Minneapolis, born May 12, 1869; and Nancy (Mrs. Roy Palmer), of Minneapolis, born June 12, 1877. Eight years ago Mr. and Mrs. Jaycox celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. They are the grand-parents of thirty-eight children and the great-grand-parents of sixteen children.

For twenty-six years Mr. Jaycox served as a supervisor of Luverne township, and for twenty years of that time he was its chairman. He was a member of the school board in 1882, at the time the present school building in Luverne was erected at a cost of \$10,000. He is one of the charter members of John A. Dix Post No. 96, G. A. R.

JAMES PRESTON (1872). Among the few surviving members of the early seventies is James Preston, of Luverne, who for practically forty years has been prominently identified with the progress and development of the county along many different lines. His career in Rock county commenced in the month of February, 1872.

Of Scotch-Irish parentage, the subject of this biography was born in Belfast, Ireland, March 4, 1847, a son of Anthony and Margaret (Thompson) Preston. He accompanied his parents to the United States when three or four years of age and located with them in Warsaw, New York. James is the only surviving child. When a youth of seventeen he volunteered his services to protect the flag of the union. That was in the year 1864. He was assigned for service in company M, Thirteenth New York

heavy artillery, from which he was discharged at the close of the momentous struggle, in July, 1865. On the cessation of hostilities James Preston returned to Warsaw, New York, the home of his boyhood, and completed his educational career at the village academy. There had been instilled within him a fondness for army life and he enlisted in November, 1866, in company C, regular U. S. engineers, with which he was connected three years, being discharged with the rank of sergeant. He was stationed during the service on Wilet's Point, now Fort Totten, Long Island.

On his final discharge from the army Mr. Preston turned his eyes westward, and in search for a location selected Corning, Iowa, where he was engaged in farming until he came to Rock county, Minnesota, in 1872. Mr. Preston was not exempt from the many discouragements and trials which seemed to heap themselves in countless array upon the heads of the valiant and determined pioneers of a frontier wilderness. It is to men such as these—men who struggled against heavy odds, but possessed of zeal that wavered not and of a hardihood that was a bulwark against calamity—that the present era of prosperity is largely due.

During the year of his arrival in the county Mr. Preston pre-empted the southeast quarter of section 18, Luverne township, and lived on the land until he proved up. His first house was a shack, 12x16 feet in dimensions, which was built from lumber bought of J. A. Town at Worthington, then the nearest trading point. All there was of the future city of Luverne at that time was the old log cabin of Philo Hawes, near the site of the Rock Island depot, and an old store building, still standing to the east of the Heinz blacksmith shop.

After securing title to the land he had pre-empted, our subject moved his humble dwelling to a location on the northeast quarter of the same section, which he laid claim to under the homestead act. That farm, at first a dreary, treeless stretch of prairie, was transformed with the succeeding years into a beautiful and substantially improved farm home, today unrivalled in the county. The Prestons lived continuously on the Luverne township farm thirty years, or until 1900, when the family moved

to Luverne. However, at the end of four years, they returned to the farm to remain until 1909, when a permanent residence was established in the city of Luverne. The half of section 18, the original pre-emption and homestead claims, is still the property of the man who altered its primeval condition.

Mr. Preston was one of the hay-burners in the early days. He felt the bitter sting of the grasshopper scourge, which descended at such an inopportune time on the land just commencing to bear fruit. He was married in the spring of 1874, and that year the crop failure was most complete. Mr. Preston with his young wife was forced to abandon the country during the winter following and went to Iowa, where he secured employment that enabled the little family to make both ends meet, and then only by the most frugal economy. Mrs. Preston taught school in Iowa that winter. They returned to their frontier home with the opening of spring. Then there were countless trying experiences, never to be forgotten, during several of the fearful winter seasons.

In the early political affairs of the county our subject was a prominent factor. He held office when the township and village of Luverne were one political unit, and in the years which have followed he has been chosen to fill every office within the gift of the precinct's population. Upon the organization of school district No. 10 he was made the clerk, an office he held continuously for a quarter of a century. Mr. Preston is an ex-county commissioner, having served a term as a member of the board, commencing in 1892. From the very earliest he has been deeply interested in the affairs of the Luverne Methodist church, of which he is an honored member. In a fraternal way he is affiliated with Ben Franklin Lodge No. 114, A. F. & A. M., and is a charter member of John A. Dix Post No. 96, G. A. R. He is also a member of the W. O. W.

At Corning, Iowa, on the fourth of March, 1874, occurred the ceremony which united the lives of James Preston and Emma L. Neill. Mrs. Preston is a native of Burlington, Iowa, and was born December 24, 1849. Seven children have blessed this union. William E., the oldest child, conducts the old home farm in Luverne township. He

was first sergeant of company G, Fifteenth Minnesota regiment. Jessie G. is now the wife of H. H. Heald, of Belfry, Montana, having been married May 21, 1908. She is a graduate of the Luverne high school and of the Mankato normal school. For several years she was a Rock county school teacher and later took a three years' course in the city hospital of St. Paul. After graduation from that institution she practiced in Rock county and later in St. Paul. Lieutenant Homer N. Preston was graduated from West Point in 1902 and has since been in the military service. The first year after his graduation he was stationed at Fort Snelling, Minnesota. He then spent two years with the army in the Philippine Islands, two years at Fort Logan, Colorado, and then for a few months in the Philippines again, where he was promoted to first lieutenant. Upon his return to the states he was stationed for a short time at Fort Assiniboine, Montana, and then, in June, 1911, took station at Honolulu, Hawaiian Islands. He was married in November, 1910. Another son, Arthur B., a graduate of the Luverne high school and of the Sioux Falls Business college, died October 9, 1902, at the age of twenty-three years. The other children are Herbert L., of Minneapolis; Florence M., a school teacher; and Paul J., a student in the medical department of the university of Minnesota.

BIRCH CHAPIN (1871) is one of the earliest of Rock county's pioneers who still resides on the old homestead, the northeast quarter of section 22, Springwater township, taken in 1871.

The parents of our subject were Henry W. and Matilda (Stillwell) Chapin, natives of New York and Ohio, respectively. They were early day settlers of St. Joseph county, Michigan, where the birth of Birch Chapin occurred June 10, 1847. As a child he moved with his parents to Dane county, Wisconsin, and from that place at the age of ten years to Winneshiek county, Iowa, where he grew to manhood. In 1871 he arrived in Rock county and filed claim to the land described above. He returned to Iowa for the winter, coming back in the spring to commence improvement on the place. A year later he moved his family from Iowa,

and has lived there to this date. He weathered the storms of adversity which fell to the lot of the pioneers of the seventies, and now in old age he enjoys the deserved fruits of fortune.

The year 1871 was an eventful one in the life of Birch Chapin in more ways than one, for it was on January 22, of that year, in Allamakee county, Iowa, that he was joined in the holy bonds of matrimony to Alice F. Webster. Mrs. Chapin is the daughter of George W. and Eliza (Hill) Webster and was born August 23, 1852. This venerable couple are the parents of the following named children: George H., born December 3, 1871; Ellena M., born June 5, 1873, died January 12, 1878; Franklin C., born December 15, 1875, died January 5, 1878; Samuel B., born May 31, 1879; Bertrum R., born April 11, 1882; and Ralph W., born June 9, 1884.

In his long life of service in this county Mr. Chapin has been called upon repeatedly to fill offices of trust. For a quarter of a century he was Springwater township's efficient clerk, and for two score of years he served as clerk of school district No. 2. He was also director of the same for a number of years. He owns stock in the Farmers Elevator company of Sherman, South Dakota. Mr. and Mrs. Chapin are old and faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

HERBERT J. MILLER (1879), deceased. The city of Luverne, the county of Rock, and the state of Minnesota, suffered a distinct and profound loss in the passing away on May 8, 1909, of Herbert J. Miller, who for an uninterrupted period of thirty years had guided the destinies of the Rock County Herald, the journal which he elevated to its present enviable position—the "leading weekly paper of the state," not a complimentary honor but one accorded by those in authority and in the face of stern competition. Probably to Mr. Miller more than to any other human agency, Luverne and Rock county are under obligations for their present prosperous condition. In the capacity of editor he was the zealous advocate of every movement that tended to promote the material, moral, social and political welfare of the county he had selected

as the field for endeavor. A man of sterling integrity, of fearless and indomitable energy, his influence was destined to extend beyond the borders of a single political unit; it extended to the whole state of Minnesota.

A native of Wisconsin, Herbert J. Miller was born in the village of Deerfield, Dane county, on the thirteenth day of July, 1855. His parents were William H. Miller, a native of Maine, and Ann L. (Gee) Miller, who was born in England and came to this country in early childhood. Herbert passed his early youth on the family farm near Deerfield and attended the rural schools in the immediate vicinity. At the age of sixteen years he was enrolled as a student in the Stoughton high school, from which he was graduated at the end of two years. He then matriculated at the university of Wisconsin, where he pursued the complete four-year classical course. He put himself through college by teaching and work at other employment during the summer vacations. Having determined upon a journalistic career, shortly after his graduation from the university Mr. Miller went to Reinbeck, Iowa, where he conducted a newspaper for nearly two years, leaving there in 1879 to establish his long and eventful residence in Luverne.

Immediately upon his arrival at Luverne our subject entered upon the performance of the duties which he carried on unceasingly almost up to the time of his decease. He bought a half interest in the Herald from A. L. Stoughton, and the two gentlemen conducted the paper in partnership for a number of years. In 1882 Messrs. Stoughton & Miller sold the paper under contract, which was violated. During a retirement of six months from the Herald, Mr. Miller was a member of the editorial staff of the Minneapolis Evening Journal. To protect their interests Miller & Stoughton again assumed charge of their property, and shortly after Mr. Miller purchased the interest of his partner in the business and continued as sole owner from that time. He gave the Herald his undivided time and attention until within two and one-half years of his death, when signs of failing health prompted a retirement from active management of the paper. He spent the winter of 1906-07 in California in a vain quest for relief

from the malady that had settled upon him, and from then until the final summons in May, 1909, he waged a heroic battle against the inevitable.

The name and fame of the Rock county editor early became known throughout the state and on several occasions he was called upon to serve in an official capacity. He was an ardent champion of the doctrines of republicanism, and the state leaders of that party were early attracted by the forceful utterances of the young editor and recognized in him a power to be reckoned with. Mr. Miller was three times elected president of the Luverne village council and was honored time and again by being selected to fill important posts of duty in many movements and enterprises that have brought the little city of Luverne to the forefront. He was a member of the Minnesota delegation to the national republican convention which nominated Harrison for the presidency in 1888, and was appointed at that time a member of the Pan-American conference for the settlement of the Chilian dispute. Mr. Miller, with a thoroughness which characterized his devotion to every trust, public or private, supervised the federal census of 1890 for the first and second congressional districts.

The untiring labors of Senator Herbert J. Miller have born abundant fruit and to him the state of Minnesota will ever feel indebted for much of value on the statute books. He was first elected to the state senate in 1894 from the district comprising the counties of Rock, Pipestone, Nobles and Murray, and was re-elected in 1898 from the present sixteenth district, embracing Rock and Pipestone counties. Senator Miller was regarded as one of the ablest men who ever labored in the halls of the legislature and at all times his record proved him to be the sincere and abiding friend of the people. The legislation he introduced and to which he gave his determined support was for the most part directed against the free hand methods of the railroads and other common carriers, and he was responsible in a marked degree for the powers of restraint which have been vested in the state railroad and warehouse commission. In 1904 Mr. Miller entered the congressional race in the second district

and conducted a noteworthy campaign. He was an advocate of the tariff revision platform, at that time an issue within the party for the first time. He waged his fight practically single handed and against great odds, and although defeated in his first attempt to gain a coveted seat in the national congress, he was recognized by his opponents as a factor to be seriously reckoned with. In the succeeding campaign Mr. Miller was unable to take advantage of the promising prospects for capturing the nomination by reason of the fatal illness which at that time befell.

At Mitchell, South Dakota, on October 28, 1880, Herbert J. Miller was joined in marriage to Lillian Crane, who with two daughters born to this union, Edna E. and Ella-bert, survive him. Our subject was prominently identified with the Masonic order and other worthy organizations.

EMORY T. THORSON (1878), of Hardwick, is one of Rock county's most substantial and progressive farmers, who owns a full section of productive land in Battle Plain and Denver townships. He is the able representative of the first district on the board of county commissioners.

In Fayette county, Iowa, on May 27, 1856, Emory, the son of Thor and Lizzie (Inge-bretson) Thorson, was born. Both parents were natives of Norway. They married there and on coming to the United States in 1850, settled on government land in Fayette county, Iowa, upon which they lived until called by death. The mother died in 1857. Thor Thorson was wedded a second time and died in February, 1905, at the ripe old age of four score and ten years.

Emory was educated in the schools of Clermont, Iowa. He assisted his father with the management of the home place until after his twenty-fourth birthday. He then struck out for himself and the same year found his way to Luverne, where he was employed two years. Meanwhile, he purchased a homestead right to the southwest quarter of section 30, Battle Plain township, which formed a nucleus for his increased real estate holdings of the later days. In the spring of 1880 Mr. Thorson moved on his claim and made that his home for fifteen years. He then moved, buildings and all,

to land he acquired on section 25, Denver township, and that has been his home to the present date. He has experienced unusual success in his farming operations and now owns one of the most thoroughly improved farms in the precinct and county. With his sons he farms one-half of his land, and he engages extensively in stock raising.

Mr. Thorson has from the earliest times been an active and instrumental force in the promotion of the civic and political good of his community and county at large. He was elected to the office of county commissioner in 1904 and was re-elected in 1908, his present term expiring January 1, 1913. Prior to the incorporation of the village of Hardwick, which includes the home farm, he was the chairman of the board of supervisors of Denver township. He was treasurer of his school district in Battle Plain for a number of years and was a member of the school board of Hardwick at the time the contract for the erection of the present building was let. For the past four years Mr. Thorson has been the treasurer of the Rose Dell Mutual Fire Insurance company, and for six years previous he was the president of the same organization. He owns stock in the Hardwick Farmers Elevator company and in the South Dakota Telephone company.

Emory T. Thorson was married in Lincoln county, South Dakota, on January 6, 1880, to Helen Lien, a native of Norway. She was born April 15, 1860, the daughter of Hovel and Bertha Lien, and came to this country at the age of six years. These parents have the following five children: Lulu (Mrs. John Remme), of Battle Plain township; Bertha (Mrs. Cornelius Fodness), of Lincoln county, South Dakota; Theodore E., Harry and Henry E. One son, William A., died February 7, 1908, at the age of six years. Mr. Thorson and family are members of the United Norwegian Lutheran church.

JAY A. KENNICOTT (1885). The city of Luverne, so substantially built as it is, is unusually fortunate in the class of enterprising citizens who, from small beginnings, have builded it and zealously directed its progress to its present favored position in

the forefront of Minnesota's smaller cities. A representative citizen and leading man of affairs is Jay A. Kennicott, city attorney, member of the board of county commissioners and president of the Luverne board of education.

For a quarter of a century Mr. Kennicott has been identified with Luverne and Rock county interests. A native of Chicago, he is the only surviving son of Charles and Cordelia (Boyden) Kennicott, both of whom came from families of old and prominent colonial stock, their ancestors being among the passengers of the Mayflower, which brought the very earliest of the English settlers to this country. Cordelia (Boyden) Kennicott has for many years resided in Luverne* at the home of her son. Mr. and Mrs. Kennicott moved from the east to the city of Chicago in 1850, where the former died twenty years later. Charles Kennicott was for many years connected as editor with a former influential agricultural journal, "The Prairie Farmer." He and a brother, Robert Kennicott, were among the founders of the old Chicago Academy of Science.

Jay A. Kennicott of this review was a young man just out of his teens when he settled in Luverne. For the first six months of his residence in the community of his choice he was employed in the real estate office of the town's pioneer and great developer, P. J. Kniss. At the end of that period our subject established himself in the real estate business, and soon became the exclusive agent in Rock and Nobles counties for the great land firm of Close Bros. & Co., to whom this section of the state owes much for its early settlement and subsequent development. This company, at an early date, bought extensive tracts of unimproved railroad land through southwestern Minnesota and northwestern Iowa, all of which they disposed of to actual settlers on easy terms. During the eight years of service with Close Bros. & Co., Mr. Kennicott was instrumental in the disposition of 300,000 acres of their lands. In connection with his increasing real estate business, he engaged in the harness business in Luverne, finally, in 1899, selling the same to Ed. Lynch.

In order to prepare himself for the legal profession, Mr. Kennicott entered the law



JAY A. KENNICOTT

Luverne Attorney and a Member of the
Board of County Commissioners.

school of the university of Minnesota, from which he was graduated as a member of the class of 1903. Immediately thereafter he opened a law office in Luverne, where he has since practiced, and with the exception of one year has served as city attorney. For one year, in 1888, he served as the president of the village council.

Our subject is actively connected with a number of Luverne's leading commercial enterprises, being the treasurer of the Luverne Automobile company, a director of the First National Bank, vice president, secretary and treasurer of the Luverne Telephone company, and a stockholder in and attorney for the Luverne Pressed Brick company. He has large land interests in Vienna and Springwater townships and owns considerable valuable city property. Fraternally Mr. Kennicott is affiliated with the Blue Lodge, A. F. & A. M., of which he is past master; the Knights Templar, of which he is past commander; the Elks and the Modern Woodmen.

In St. Paul, on September 6, 1887, Jay A. Kennicott was united in marriage to Maud Helm, of Luverne, a native of Saginaw, Michigan. To them have been born two sons, Kenneth, a student at the university of Wisconsin, and Robert, a senior in the Luverne high school. The town of Kenneth, on the Rock Island road in the northern part of the county, was named after Kenneth Kennicott. This was by reason of the fact that the land upon which the town was located was bought for the railroad company by his father, who also secured the right of way for the railroad.

JAMES B. DUNN (1871) has been identified with the agricultural interests of Rock county since the pioneer days of 1871. He is a native of New York, as were his parents, Patrick and Elizabeth (Blunt) Dunn. His birth occurred on the last day of the year 1843. He was a lad of twelve years when he accompanied the family in their removal to Dodge county, Wisconsin. His father bought a quarter section of land near the town of Clyman, upon which our subject lived until the outbreak of the war of the rebellion.

In 1863 Mr. Dunn enlisted in company A, Fifty-second Wisconsin volunteers, and

served the union cause until October 20, 1865. At the cessation of hostilities he returned to manage his father's Wisconsin farm. In 1871 Mr. Dunn started west and found the goal of his desire in the then raw and undeveloped Rock county, but there was abundant evidence of a future prosperity. That year he filed a homestead claim to the northeast quarter of section 24, Beaver Creek township. He returned to Wisconsin and worked in the woods the next winter. He made permanent settlement on his claim the following spring. For twenty-six consecutive years Mr. Dunn resided on the old homestead, and then in 1898 he bought the southwest quarter of section 15, Luverne township, which he is still actively engaged in farming. He is a large stock raiser and makes a specialty of thoroughbred Hereford cattle. He has served his township as a member of the board of supervisors and also as assessor.

At Fall River, Wisconsin, the second of March, 1869, our subject was united in marriage to Laura E. Snow, the daughter of Harvey and Sarah (Webster) Snow, of Massachusetts descent. Mr. and Mrs. Dunn have been blessed with the following children: Ella E. (Mrs. August Finke); Thomas R., of Hinckley, Minnesota; Frank A., of Little Rock, Iowa; Olo E., Albert J. and Harold E., who reside at home.

OLE HANSEN (1872) is one of Rock county's early pioneers and one of the county's largest land owners. Seven hundred twenty acres of Kanaranzi township's soil and 520 acres in Clinton township are recorded to his credit. The son of Hans and Mary Christianson, he was born in Denmark on December 13, 1848.

On his father's farm in the native land he grew to young manhood, receiving a common school education at the village school near by. At the age of twenty his career in America began. The first five years he lived near Cedar Falls, Iowa. In 1872 he cast his lot with others who were to pave the way for Rock county's future prosperity. He homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 8, Kanaranzi township, and in those days it was necessary to walk to and from Jackson, where the government land office was located, to file on land

claims. Mr. Hansen retained this original holding for only six months, when he disposed of his right to P. Jensen. Soon after, he bought the southwest quarter of section 30, in the same township, and made that his home until 1905, when he moved to his present location in Clinton township, the southwest quarter of section 25, where his labors continue to be blessed, as they have for nearly forty years past.

Mr. Hansen is a man of family. His marriage to Esther Olson, the daughter of Ole and Sennef Blinsmon, of Clinton county, Iowa, who were early day settlers in America from their native land of Norway, took place in Kanaranzi township on September 26, 1876. The following named eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hansen: Handy O., Carl G., Albert H., Martin H., Viola A. and two girls and one boy who are deceased. Mr. Hansen is a member of the Presbyterian church. For twenty years he served school district No. 24 as its treasurer, and at the present time he is treasurer of district No. 1. He was a member of the township board four years.

IVER D. EITREIM (1874) is one of the most prominent citizens of Beaver Creek township, where he is extensively engaged in farming and stock raising. He homesteaded his present finely improved farm, the northeast quarter of section 11, township 102, range 47, in 1874. He has from time to time added to his original holding until today he is the possessor of 720 acres of as productive soil as Rock county affords. He is a large stock raiser and in that line makes a specialty of breeding thoroughbred Hereford cattle and Poland China hogs.

In Oddo, Hardanger, Norway, on October 26, 1850, the subject of this biography first gazed on the things of earth. He is the son of Daniel and Guro (Asbjornson) Eitrem. His father was a shoemaker in the town in which Iver was educated and grew to manhood. In 1871, during his twenty-first year, he bade farewell to native shores and alone undertook the long journey to America. He first located in Winneshiek county, Iowa, following the trade of carpenter there for three years, until making settlement in Rock county. Mr. Eitrem has at all times

been actively interested in the promotion of every cause for his community's good, and he has had an opportunity to exhibit this spirit by a twenty years' service both as township supervisor and clerk of school district No. 22, of which he is at the present time a director. He is the vice president and a director of the Farmers Elevator companies at Beaver Creek and Booge, South Dakota.

At Luverne, on September 19, 1875, Iver D. Eitrem was joined in marriage to Synneva Arneson, also a native of Hardanger, Norway. She came to America in 1868 and settled with her parents, Ole and Kari (Tokheim) Arneson, in Lee county, Illinois. Mrs. Eitrem died April 16, 1909. The following ten children were born to this union: Daniel, born October 15, 1876; Ole, born August 11, 1878; George, born July 19, 1880; Gurina, born February 2, 1884; Andrew, born September 28, 1886; Edward, born June 12, 1889; Carl, born March 16, 1893; William, born March 4, 1896; Joseph, born November 13, 1898; and Lewis, born January 13, 1902. The family are members of the United Lutheran church.

Mr. Eitrem has returned twice to visit his native land, once in 1901 and again in 1910. He was accompanied on the first trip by his son Ole. On the second trip he was accompanied by several neighbors: Ole P. Rollag and wife, H. C. Jordahl, son and daughter, Ole T. O. Tokheim and wife, Amund Johnson and Torger Sandven.

AUSTIN MAXWELL (1872), who now lives in the village of Kanaranzi, is one of the earliest of Rock county's settlers. The birth of Mr. Maxwell took place on October 17, 1844, at Preble, Cortland county, New York.

When a boy of ten years our subject accompanied his parents in their removal to the then new state of Wisconsin, which had been admitted to the union only the year previous. After a residence of five years there, the family moved to Winona county, Minnesota, where Mr. Maxwell passed his early manhood. At the call to arms in 1863, he was the youngest of five brothers to respond, all of whom served in the war at the same time. The company in which Mr. Maxwell enlisted and served was com-

pany A, Second Minnesota volunteer cavalry.

After the close of the great conflict Mr. Maxwell returned to his eastern Minnesota home and remained there until 1872, the date of his arrival in Rock county. He homesteaded on section 34, Magnolia township, and lived on his land for the next seven years. Then he moved to Rock Rapids, Iowa, where for twenty years he was one of the town's business men, taking an active part in its promotion and development. He was engaged in the real estate and insurance business while there. Since 1899 his residence has been in Kanaranzi, where, among other duties, he serves as clerk of the school board. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and of the G. A. R.

Two years after settling in Rock county Mr. Maxwell was united in marriage to Mary E. Loveland, the daughter of G. Q. and Rowena (House) Loveland, natives of Ohio. The ceremony occurred on October 4, 1874. To them the following children have been born: Rosa R., on July 12, 1875; Austina Sioux, on October 4, 1878; Walter E., on October 6, 1876; Clyde R., on November 2, 1882; Alta B., on February 22, 1890; and Gay Q., on March 24, 1892.

PETER N. STEEN (1872) is a prominent resident of the town of Steen and a farmer of Clinton township whose entire life has been spent in and near the scene of his present active and manifold labors. Peter N. Steen was born April 23, 1872, in Clinton township on the farm that later became and is today the townsite of Steen.

He is the son of John P. and Lena (Clemenson) Steen, both deceased. The father of our subject, John P. Steen, was one of the very earliest settlers of Clinton township, and during his life one of the most active forces in its upbuilding. He was born in Norway and on his coming to America at an early date located on a farm in Wisconsin. During the war of the rebellion he served for two years and ten months with the Fiftieth Wisconsin volunteer infantry. He arrived in Rock county during the pioneer days of 1871 and homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 32, Clinton township. In partnership with a town lot

company, Mr. Steen assisted in the platting of the town of Steen, named in his honor, and gave twenty acres of the homestead for the purpose. The worthy citizen died in 1887.

Peter N. Steen of this biography grew to manhood on the old homestead. His education was secured at the log schoolhouse, an old landmark east of the town. At the age of twenty-four he rented the farm from the estate, to which it still belongs, and has successfully conducted it up to the present time.

His interests outside of the farm have been many and varied. He has always taken a deep interest in the civic and educational welfare of his community. Mr. Steen served his township for one year as assessor, three years as road overseer, and is now entering upon his seventh term as constable. For six years he has been one of the board of directors of school district No. 14. He has been director of the company that owns the town hall at Steen, erected by public subscription, for the past twelve years. Mr. Steen has been the administrator of his father's estate since his death in 1887 and is the guardian of the minor children. He is affiliated with the M. W. A. lodge of Steen.

At Rock Rapids, Iowa, on December 28, 1898, Mr. Steen was united in marriage to Josie Johnson, the daughter of John Danielson, deceased. Mrs. Steen is a native of Norway, coming to this country when a girl seven years of age. The following seven children, all living at home, have been born to them: Virgil, born September 19, 1899; Nina, born May 27, 1902; Alice, born December 9, 1904; Marie, born September 16, 1905; Evelyn, born March 31, 1906; Clifford, born September 4, 1908; and Winston, born November 16, 1910.

CHARLES C. DREW (1876), of Luverne, has been a prominent man of affairs in Rock county for the past thirty-five years. Pipestone county, too, has been a fruitful field of endeavor for the exercise of Mr. Drew's talents. He was a pioneer furniture merchant of both Luverne and Pipestone and in both counties is a large land owner. Of late years Mr. Drew has retired from active business pursuits but, despite his ad-

vanced age, he continues to personally manage his extensive farm and city property interests. His has been a career of usefulness, well entitled to a review in a volume of this character.

Charles Cheney Drew, the son of Levi and Rhoda (Ames) Drew, was born at Holderness, New Hampshire, October 24, 1825. The Drew family, members of which were numbered among the very first of New England's pioneers, has an illustrious history. The genealogical record shows that the first of the family to settle in America were grandsons of Sir Edward Drew, Drewsccliffe, Devonshire, England, who was knighted by Queen Elizabeth in 1589. So early as 1648 the name of William Drew was recorded on the tax books of Dover, New Hampshire. He later moved to Oyster River (now Durham), New Hampshire, where also resided a brother, Thomas Drew, who was born in 1632. William Drew, born in 1627, died in 1669 and left three sons, one of whom survived the father only a few years. Thomas Drew was killed by the Indians while defending his blockhouse in 1694. He left several children. It is to these two brothers that the founding of the American branch of the Drew family is credited.

The subject of this biography is of the eighth generation removed from John Drew, the son of William Drew already mentioned. John Drew was born in 1642 and located at Plymouth, Massachusetts, in 1660. In direct line our subject's descent is traced through Nicholas Drew, son of John, born in 1670; Joshua Drew, son of Nicholas, born in 1695; Levi Drew, son of Joshua, born in 1720; Levi Drew, son of Levi, born in 1745; Joseph Drew, son of Levi, born in 1772; Levi Drew, son of Joseph, born in 1800; and Charles C. Drew, the subject of our consideration, who was born to Levi and Rhoda (Ames) Drew. Levi Drew was born April 20, 1800, and died July 13, 1850, while the mother's birth occurred July 4, 1796, and her death in September, 1852. Five children besides Charles C. were born to this union, as follows: Nathan LaFayette, born July 30, 1824, and died June 4, 1898; Levi Burleigh, born May 17, 1827, and died September 18, 1872; Daniel Kelly, born November 20, 1828, and died July 16, 1851; Rhoda Elizabeth, born March

24, 1830, and died December 2, 1891; Amanda Melvina, born October 27, 1833.

The first eleven years of the life of Charles C. Drew were passed on the farm of his father near Holderness, New Hampshire. In 1836, in order to more advantageously provide for the growing family, Levi Drew moved with his family to a larger farm in the town of Plymouth, also in Grafton county. Charles attended the district school during the few winter months and later was for two terms a student at the Holderness high school. After fourteen years spent on the Plymouth farm, he associated himself with his father in carpenter work in the village of Holderness until the latter was called by death in 1850. Mr. Drew continued his residence in Holderness until 1854, when he set out to engage in carpenter work in several New England cities: Nashua, Boston and Chelsea.

In March, 1856, our subject departed from the east and with his wife began a residence in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Mr. Drew became actively identified with the lumbering interests of that city and was part owner of the first circular-saw mill established there. This plant was destroyed by fire in 1860, resulting in a serious financial loss to Mr. Drew. His capital was exhausted, but, possessed of an optimistic spirit and boundless energy, he at once set to work to repair his fortunes. He moved with his family to Charles City, Iowa, in 1870 and remained there for several years, visiting, meanwhile, in California, Boston and other places, and also devoting some attention to the logging business on the Chippewa river, in Wisconsin.

It was in October, 1876, that the Drews commenced their long residence in Luverne. Charles Drew immediately homesteaded land and also took a tree claim over the line in Pipestone county. He broke ten acres of this land in the spring of 1877 and sowed it to wheat. In the same field with the wheat he planted young trees, in rows twelve feet apart. When the grain was ready for harvest the trees were bent over and covered with sod so as to cause no interference with the reapers. The trees were not damaged a particle by the experiment and grew normally. The tree planting was only the beginning of improvements made by Mr. Drew on his original

farm, as well as the others he subsequently came into possession of. He experienced to a full extent the numerous trials and discomforts incident to the few blizzard seasons in the early history of the county.

Soon after making settlement in Luverne Mr. Drew established himself in the furniture business at that point and opened a branch store at Pipestone, shortly after the founding of that city. He erected a substantial brick block in Luverne in 1885—the first stone building in the county. For several years during the early eighties, Mr. Drew, in company with his son-in-law, Frank Smith, was engaged in the banking business at Edgerton. In the spring of 1886 the Drew furniture store at Luverne was sold to Mr. Smith, who conducted the same until his death, which occurred but a few months after the transfer took place. The store has ever since been conducted by his widow, Inez Drew Smith. Since retiring from active business life Mr. Drew has managed his large real estate interests.

Mr. Drew is a staunch prohibitionist and has rendered noble aid in the furtherance of the principles for which that party stands. He attended the prohibition national convention of 1896 at Pittsburg as a delegate from Minnesota, took a leading part in the deliberations of the prohibition state conventions of 1898 and 1900, and at the latter assemblage was chosen one of the presidential electors. For more than three score years our subject has been a devout follower of the Baptist faith and has a notable record for faithful service in connection with a long association with that religious body. He served as a trustee of the Baptist church at Oshkosh, later in a similar capacity at Charles City, and for twenty-seven years has been a trustee of the Luverne church, in addition to which he can point to a record of twenty years continuous service as church treasurer.

At Holderness, New Hampshire, June 1, 1852, Charles C. Drew was joined in the bonds of matrimony to Sarah Frances Ferson. Mrs. Drew was born November 16, 1883, the daughter of John and Lucy (Woods) Ferson, and comes from an old American family that were originally from the highlands of Scotland, where they formed a part of the famous "Clan Chattan." The following three daughters were

born to Mr. and Mrs. Drew: Inez I. (Mrs. Frank Smith), who conducts a Luverne furniture store, was born March 26, 1857; Zillah E. (Mrs. William H. Wilson), a critic teacher at the Aberdeen, South Dakota, normal school, was born August 30, 1860; and Jenunie L. (Mrs. Walter M. Savage), of Watertown, South Dakota. Frank Smith died January 30, 1886. Mr. Savage is also deceased, having passed away at Watertown September 11, 1910.

CHARLES H. WALKER (1875), who has one of the up-to-date and most finely improved farms in Magnolia township and is a large breeder and dealer in fancy stock, is a native of Wilmington, Delaware, where his nativity occurred the second of December, 1860.

His father, Henry Walker, was born and brought up on a farm in Ireland. Leaving the "ould sod" when a lad of eighteen, Henry Walker came to America and made his home in Wilmington. After working for awhile in that city as a teamster, he became the proprietor of a successful dray and transfer business. The mother of our subject was born in Media, Pennsylvania, of English descent. The family home was in Wilmington until 1869, when the summons to the west was heeded. For three years Blackhawk county, Iowa, was made the place of residence, and then a removal to Butler county, in the same state, was made.

Charles H. Walker accompanied his parents in their journey to Iowa and lived on his father's farms until fifteen years of age. On January 15, 1875, the youthful Charles arrived in Magnolia, prepared to make his own way in the world. For the next five years he hired out to different Magnolia township farmers. Three of these five years were passed in the employ of the Rock County Farm company, one of the big industries in operation during the early days of the county's history. The company was an organization of the extensive land interests of the Thompson family and had control of something like 23,000 acres, of which about 7000 acres were kept in cultivation.

In November, 1880, Mr. Walker left Rock county, to be gone four years. The interim was passed in the city of his birth, Wil-

mington, where until 1884 he was employed in the great pulp mills. That year he returned to Magnolia and has since continued to be one of the township's affluent citizens. He started in a small way as a renter; then in 1894 he was able to buy his present place, the northeast quarter of section 2 and the north half of the northwest quarter section 12. In addition to his own 240 acres, he farms a like amount of the Thompson land. Mr. Walker served his township as supervisor one year and for three years was the treasurer of school district No. 30. He is a member of Luverne Lodge No. 67, I. O. O. F.

At St. Peter, Minnesota, on June 11, 1893, Mr. Walker was united in marriage to Mary L. Dranttel, who was born in that city on February 3, 1869. They are the parents of the following nine children: Bert, Eva, Mabel, Harvey, Grace, Stella and Stanley (twins), Emery and Russell.

NELS ANDERSON (1871). In the list of Rock county's pioneers there are few whose coming antedates that of the gentleman whose name heads this sketch. The story of his life is an interesting one. He shared with others the bitter experiences of the first years of hardships and discouragements, but, undaunted and possessed of perseverance and pluck, he overcame all obstacles, and his career is an excellent example of the stamp of men who paved the way to Rock county's future greatness.

Nels Anderson is a Norwegian by birth and breeding, born October 1, 1843, in Nordland. He was left an orphan at a tender age by the passing away of his parents, John and Mary (Olson) Anderson. Left to struggle for himself, our subject sought his livelihood as a tiller of the soil. He crossed the Atlantic in 1868 and made his home for the first two years in Dane county, Wisconsin. While there he chose as his help-mate Gena Jacobson, and they were married May 1, 1870. She passed to her reward October 8, 1901.

After farming in Wisconsin for two years, plans were perfected for the removal to a new country further west. By rail they traveled as far as Fort Dodge, Iowa, and from there the young Norwegian and his plucky wife walked the entire distance of

fifty miles to the interior of Buena Vista county, where they remained two months. There Mr. Anderson came into possession of a yoke of oxen. With Andrew Anderson and Joseph Jacobson—friends found in Buena Vista county—the young couple drove to Rock county, arriving the first day of July, 1871.

The party of settlers found but one white person, John Martin, in the whole of what is now Martin township. It was in this locality that the friends determined to establish their homes. The pick of the land was theirs, and the three gentlemen—the Messrs. Anderson and Mr. Jacobson—all took homestead claims on section 24. Mr. Anderson's earthly possessions consisted of the span of oxen, three cows, and five dollars in cash, and with this capital he commenced his career as a citizen of Rock county. A little sod house was erected on the prairie, and that was the family abode for seven years, when a small frame house took its place. The grasshopper days came with their attendant hard times, and for a number of winters there was always danger from the blinding blizzards which swept over the trackless prairies. On one occasion of this nature in January, 1873, Mr. Anderson with two companions were caught in a raging blizzard and were forced to spend the night in the open near the river. The experience nearly cost them their lives. But after darkness came sunshine; the winds of adversity were weathered; and today the hardy old settler enjoys peace and comfort on the beautiful farm on section 24, grown from the seed planted in the days of yore.

Twelve children were born to Mr. Anderson and his faithful wife, of which three died when young. The living children are as follows: Andrew, who lives at home; John, of Enderlin, North Dakota; Annie (Mrs. John Johnson), of Martin township, Ricard and Nels, who live in North Dakota; Lena (Mrs. Walter Hildebrandt), of Colman, South Dakota; Christina (Mrs. Arthur Hildebrandt), of Colman, South Dakota; Jennie (Mrs. Will Stanton), of Sioux City, Iowa; and Mary (Mrs. Carl Klingbale), of Lyon county, Iowa.

Andrew B. Anderson, the eldest son, who since 1900 has farmed the old homestead in partnership with his father, was born in

Sioux Rapids, Iowa, May 9, 1871. A few months after his birth he accompanied his parents in the journey by ox cart to Rock county, and on the Martin township farm his whole life has been spent. Nels Anderson and his son Andrew are both members of the Trinity Norwegian Lutheran church of Hills.

ANDREW INGELSON (1877) is the son of two of Springwater township's pioneers, Paul and Bertha (Erickson) Ingelson, and has been a resident of that precinct for all except the first seven years of his life. The parents, natives of Sweden and Norway, respectively, came to the United States in an early day and located near the town of Calmar, Winneshiek county, Iowa, where our subject first saw the light of day December 3, 1870.

Andrew accompanied his parents to Rock county in 1877 and located with them on the homestead claim taken by his father, the southeast quarter of section 30, Springwater township. He attended the district schools and assisted with the work on the home farm until 1895, when he rented land of his father and commenced his career as an independent farmer. Five years later he bought his present productive farm, the northeast quarter of section 31, from his father, and has resided there to this date. Mr. Ingelson served as justice of peace for four years and is now a director of school district No. 20. He is an extensive breeder of Duroc-Jersey hogs. He is a director of the First National Bank of Beaver Creek, is vice president of the Farmers Telephone company, and owns stock in the Beaver Creek Farmers Elevator company. He is a Modern Woodmen by lodge affiliation.

Andrew Ingelson was married at Sioux Falls June 22, 1898, to Millie Smith, who died in 1905. He was married a second time on September 3, 1907, to Annie Hagen, who was born June 15, 1888, the daughter of Ole and Ida M. (Johnson) Hagen, now residents of Shellenfalls, Washington. There are five children in the Ingelson family, as follows: Howard, born July 24, 1899; Winifred, born March 24, 1901; Freeman, born December 2, 1902; Herman, born April 3, 1905; and Ruby, born January 7, 1909.

GEORGE W. KNISS (1870). There are few people who have lived longer in Rock county than has the gentlemen whose name heads this biography. He has been a resident of Rock county since the month of May, 1870—a period of over forty-one years. At the time he arrived in the county the federal census showed a population in Rock county of 138 people, and he has seen the county develop from this sparsely settled region to the prosperous and populous country it is today. In many of the historical events that have taken place during this time Mr. Kniss has taken a part, and a biography of his life is richly entitled to a place in this history of Rock county.

The parents of George W. Kniss were Jacob and Minerva (Taylor) Kniss, the former a native of Clearfield, Pennsylvania, the latter of Petersburg, Virginia. Jacob Kniss died at Defiance, Ohio, at the age of fifty-four years; our subject's mother died in Luverne and was eighty-six years old at the time of her demise.

To these parents, at Fort Defiance, Ohio, on the twelfth day of October, 1839, George W. Kniss was born, and in that place he had his home until 1865. He grew to manhood at his parents' home, receiving his preliminary education at Defiance and supplementing it with a course in the Delton academy at Delton, Wisconsin.

Upon the outbreak of the civil war Mr. Kniss offered his services to his country, enlisting as a private at Antwerp, Ohio, in company G, Fourteenth Ohio volunteer infantry, for a three months' service. He was sent at once to the front and participated in the battles of Cheat River and Carrick's Ford, in West Virginia. Upon the expiration of his first enlistment Mr. Kniss became a member of company C, Sixty-eighth Ohio volunteer infantry, and was commissioned the company's second lieutenant. Later he was made captain of company H, of the same regiment. During the greater part of his service his corps commander was General McPherson and his division commander was General John A. Logan.

With his command Captain Kniss participated in many of the important battles of the western campaign, among them being Bayou Pierre, Raymond, Gibson, Jackson, Bolton Station, Edwards' Station, Black

River, Vicksburg, Mechanicsburg, Iuka, Canton, Meridan, Fort Donaldson, Purdy, Pittsburg Landing, or Shiloh; Corinth, battle of the Hatchie river and Champion Hill. In the last named engagement Captain Kniss was wounded in the leg. He stopped fighting, dug out the bullet (which he now has in his possession), and then resumed fighting, which he continued for an hour. Captain Kniss took part in the grand review at Washington after the war and was discharged at Louisville, Kentucky, in August, 1865.

Captain Kniss located in Portage City, Wisconsin, after the war and for one year clerked in a department store. Then he went to Wood county, Wisconsin, to look after a large tract of timber land owned by his brother-in-law, Hiram Hurlbut. He remained in Wood county until May, 1870, and then became a resident of Rock county, Minnesota. In Clinton township Mr. Kniss took a pre-emption claim, upon which he lived two years. His claim adjoins the present village of Ashcreek, and while he and his wife were living there the Ashcreek postoffice (the second postoffice in Rock county) was created and Mrs. Kniss was made postmistress, an office she held four years, the latter part of her term the office being in charge of her deputy, Mrs. S. M. Brown.

After leaving Clinton township Mr. Kniss located in Luverne township, taking an eighty acre homestead adjoining the present city of Luverne. There he formed a partnership with Judge E. D. Hadley, an attorney, and for eight years the firm engaged in the law and real estate business. During this time the firm made Rock county's first set of abstract books. After this partnership was dissolved Mr. Kniss entered the Bank of Luverne, which had been organized by his brother, P. J. Kniss, and became the vice president of the institution. Later the real estate firm of Kniss Brothers & Gray was formed, and as a member of this company Mr. Kniss devoted his energies to the real estate business until 1888. During the next four years he was engaged in the same business in partnership with A. P. Adams. Since 1892 he has been engaged in the real estate and insurance business alone.

During his long residence in Rock coun-

ty Mr. Kniss has held many offices of trust. At the first election held in Rock county, in the fall of 1870, he made out the election returns and acted as county auditor until his successor, Edward McKenzie, qualified. He served one term as justice of the peace in the early seventies. He was treasurer of Luverne township in the early days and in the late seventies was elected court commissioner but did not qualify. Mr. Kniss is a member of the John A. Dix Post No. 96, G. A. R., and of the Odd Fellows lodge of Luverne.

While in the army, on October 17, 1863, Mr. Kniss was married at New Lisbon, Wisconsin, to Lina B. Older, who was born near Chautauqua, New York, August 9, 1839. Her parents were Jesse and Mary Older. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Kniss: Lulu B. (Mrs. Frank N. DeForce), of Sioux City, Iowa; Myrtle C. (Mrs. N. C. Schwartz), of Luverne; Ralph, of South Dakota.

B. E. ROSSUM (1874), a pioneer of Martin township, is by birth a Norwegian, his nativity occurring December 3, 1847. He is the son of Endre and Martha (Nass) Rossum and is the fifth in a family of seven children, of whom four were girls and three boys. The mother and father are both deceased, passing from this life at the ages of sixty-five and seventy years, respectively.

Our subject lived on his father's farm in his native land until 1869, when he immigrated to the United States, going direct to Fillmore county, Minnesota. There he worked out on different farms for five years, until 1874, the date of his advent to Rock county. Buying the southwest quarter of section 10, Martin township, he has continued to farm his land up to the present time. As the clerk of school district No. 19, Mr. Rossum can point to a record of fifteen years of faithful service. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

On March 16, 1871, in Fillmore county, Minnesota, the marriage of Mr. Rossum to Mary Larson took place. Mrs. Rossum is the daughter of Lars and Engebørh (Dahlen) Larson, natives of Norway who came to this country in 1869. Her parents resided in Scott county, Minnesota, until their deaths, one at the age of eighty-three

years, the other aged eighty-one. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Rossum: Edward, on June 28, 1872; Engeborg, on May 6, 1874; Laura, on February 9, 1876; Emma, on May 11, 1878; Louisa, on March 1, 1880; Oscar, on May 1, 1882; Menna, on April 27, 1884; Benhart, on August 19, 1886; Lewis, on January 17, 1889; Tilda, on June 17, 1891; and Mabel, on March 1, 1894. Of these, the eldest, Edward, died April 6, 1896, and Louisa on June 3, 1901.

CHARLIE E. ROLPH (1872) is a Rock county pioneer, now the leading contractor and builder in the village of Magnolia. His birth occurred in Crawford county, Indiana, August 20, 1855. He was yet in his first year when he accompanied his parents to Minnesota and located with them in Fillmore county. He acquired an education in the village school of Forestville. The family in 1872 became residents of Rock county. On his father's farm in Magnolia township Charlie lived until after he was twenty-two and then went to Luverne and commenced the career he has since followed, that of a carpenter. He has lived in and around Magnolia since about 1875. Nearly all the buildings in Magnolia are the work of his skill. He was the builder of the village hall, the public school, and during the summer of 1910 erected an elegant thirteen-room residence for himself. He is assisted in his contracting business by his sons, Edwin and Charles B.

The subject of this biography is the oldest son of Charles B. and Sarah A. (Douglas) Rolph, both natives of Pennsylvania. Soon after their marriage they went to Crawford county, Indiana, and a year later moved to Minnesota, residing in Fillmore county until 1872, the year of their arrival in Rock county. Charles B. Rolph took as a homestead claim the northwest quarter of section 22, Magnolia township. Three years later he pre-empted a timber claim in Battle Plain township, and there the family lived up to the date of Mr. Rolph's death in 1896. His wife now lives in Magnolia and is hale and hearty at seventy-one years. There were nine other children in the family besides Charlie of this sketch, all but three of whom are living.

Charlie E. Rolph was married at Worthington on June 28, 1876, to Ella Phinney, a native of Wisconsin, born in 1859. To this union five sons and five daughters have been born, named as follows: Philey, Hunter, Nellie, Jessie, Edwin, Pearl, Charles, Myrtle, Robert and Eva. Three of the children are deceased.

ALFRED E. ERICKSON (1872) is a member of one of the first fifteen families to make settlement in Beaver Creek township, which they did in the historic days of the early seventies. Today he is a leading agriculturist and man of affairs of that thriving community.

In Vermland, Sweden, on July 26, 1857, Alfred E. Erickson was born to Andrew and Carrie (Olson) Erickson, both deceased. The father, whose memory is enshrined with others of the illustrious and honored pioneers of Rock county, was called to his reward in 1898, after a life of service to his fellow men. The faithful wife, who shared alike his trials and triumphs, survived her husband nine years.

Alfred was eleven years of age when with his parents he crossed the broad Atlantic, the connecting link between native land and the newer country of America. The family resided four years in Carroll county, Iowa, which was the starting point of a long, eventful overland journey to the new Rock county, which was reached on October 6, 1872. The father took as a homestead claim the south half of the north half of section 15, the home of our subject to this day.

In common with other poor families, the Ericksons experienced in full measure the trials and tribulations that surrounded the new comers in the initial stage of our county's making. A rude sod shanty, typical of many others that were a protection to valiant and courageous men and women, was erected in the spring of 1873, and was the family abode until supplanted by a frame structure three years later. An existence and no more was eked out from the unwilling soil during the first few years, eight bushels of wheat to the acre being a "bumper" crop. There was the ever constant danger from blizzards and prairie fires. In one dread catastrophe the stable and granary

were sacrificed to the vengeance of the devastating flames, and at the same time perished the major portion of the live stock and all the poultry.

Patient endeavor and indefatigable industry were rewarded, and the transition from the dark, calamitous days of hardship to the brighter noon-day of prosperity came deservedly and in due season to the Erickson family. The subject of this biography from early boyhood contributed his share to the development of the home farm. In 1890 he took the active management, and after his father's death in 1898, he came into full possession of the property by buying his sister's interest in the estate, and he has since reaped many a bountiful harvest. Mr. Erickson is one who is a firm believer in the value of raising high grade stock and his efforts in that line have been well repaid. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator company of Beaver Creek, and with his family belongs to the Synod Norwegian Lutheran church of Luverne.

On August 25, 1894, at Luverne, Rev. Fossum tied the nuptial knot which made Alfred E. Erickson and Lucy Peterson man and wife. Mrs. Erickson is a daughter of Ole Peterson and was born in Norway July 30, 1873. She came to the United States when twenty years of age. Her father still resides in his native land. Eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Erickson, as follows: Clara, born June 1, 1895; Arthur, born October 12, 1897; Albin, born October 8, 1899; Irwin, born April 14, 1902; Mabel, born January 3, 1904; Eddie, born May 19, 1909; Lillian, born January 30, 1908; and Elmer, born March 11, 1910.

AUGUST C. FINKE (1887). For sixteen years the name August C. Finke has been synonymous with the expression "useful citizen of Hills." As an editor, banker and real estate operator he has ever been an active participant in all that has tended to the development of the town and the welfare of the community.

The son of Christian and Mary (Eikmeier) Finke, natives of Germany, who came to the United States in 1858, August C. Finke was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, October 30, 1870. In 1887 the father landed with his family from an emigrant

car in Rock county and located on the northeast quarter of section 31, Clinton township, where he lived up to the time of his death in 1895 at the ripe old age of ninety-two years. His wife, the mother of our subject, still lives in Clinton township.

For two years August lived on the home farm; then after a year as a laborer on a farm near Iona, Murray county, he commenced farming for himself, leasing what was then known as the old Martin farm. The next year he purchased from his brother Chris the southwest quarter of section 7, Clinton township, which was later christened the Pleasant View Stock Farm, from which the German church neighborhood afterwards derived its name of Pleasant View. Mr. Finke was an extensive breeder of heavy draft horses. In February, 1895, he abandoned farm life and removed to Hills and engaged in the livery business until the following December.

After pursuing a course at the Metropolitan Business college of Sioux City, in the spring of 1896, August Finke assumed the control of the Hills Crescent. Later in the year he invited Olaf J. Nash to joint him in the enterprise, and from that day to the time of disposing of their interests in the present year the honorable and influential career of the Crescent was guided by the two worthy gentlemen. Since 1906 the active management of the paper was in the hands of Mr. Nash because of the many other interests that demanded the attention of the senior publisher.

Now to mention these other interests. In 1900 Mr. Finke began dealing in real estate in connection with his newspaper work and in the following year entered into a partnership with O. B. Severson, under the firm name of Finke & Severson, the firm making real estate and insurance the base of their operations. In 1906 our subject became assistant cashier of the State Bank of Hills and later was promoted to the cashiership. On the merger of the State Bank with the First National Bank of Hills, Mr. Finke remained with the new institution as cashier for a period of a year and a half. In August, 1909, he was instrumental in organizing the new Farmers State Bank of Hills and since that date has been the active manager of the institution, holding the office of assistant cashier. He has

full charge over the real estate and loan department of the bank.

In local and county politics Mr. Finke has always been a prominent figure and has been of material aid to his party on more than one occasion. For four years, from 1904 to 1908, he represented the third district on the board of county commissioners. In the executive branch of local government he has had several opportunities to distinguish himself, having served for a year as deputy sheriff and as constable and justice of peace. In 1908 he was a candidate for the nomination as representative to the state legislature from the sixteenth district, but was defeated at the primaries. He has served on the school board of his home town for nine years.

In Luverne township, on June 14, 1899, August C. Finke was joined in marriage to Ella A. Dunn, who was principal of the Hills schools for a number of years. Mrs. Finke was born in Columbia county, Wisconsin, in 1871. She is the daughter of James B. and Laura (Snow) Dunn, natives of New York and Vermont, respectively. One child, Geraldine Ruth, was born to these parents, on November 15, 1903. Mr. Finke holds membership in the A. O. U. W. and M. W. A. lodges.

P. E. BROWN (1882), of Luverne, is associate justice-elect of the supreme court of Minnesota and for the period of twenty years was judge of the thirteenth judicial district of Minnesota. He is a native of Shullsburg, Wisconsin, and was born June 19, 1856, the son of George O. and Sarah R. (Robson) Brown. Both parents were born in England, his father of Scotch and his mother of English stock. They came to the United States and settled in Wisconsin in 1849, where they resided until 1884. That year they moved to Luverne, where they resided until their death.

The subject of this biography attended the common and high schools of Shullsburg and was graduated from the latter institution. Thereafter he taught school for a few years and then entered the university of Wisconsin, where he was a student during the years 1875 and 1876. He read law at Platteville, Wisconsin, in the office of W. E. Carter, and in 1880 and

1881 he attended the Albany (New York) law school, from which he was graduated. From the date of his graduation until August, 1882, Judge Brown practiced law at Darlington, Wisconsin; then he moved to Luverne and engaged in the practice of his profession until 1891. That year he was appointed judge of the thirteenth judicial district, an office he held until 1911.

Judge Brown was married at Blanchard, Iowa, October 22, 1882, to Ellen Ford. She was born at Boscobel, Wisconsin, September 15, 1856, and is the daughter of Thomas T. and Nancy Ford. One child has been born to this union, Hazel F., now a student at Vassar college, of Poughkeepsie, New York.

CHARLES E. STEARNS (1873), who is a substantial agriculturist of Denver township, in which precinct he owns the southwest quarter of section 24, can lay claim to a continuous residence in Rock county of thirty-eight years. He is the son of one of the vanguard of Beaver Creek township's pioneers and one who still resides there, J. H. Stearns, a native of Vermont, and formerly a carpenter by occupation. His mother, Amanda (Smith) Stearns, who is also living, was born in New York state. The Stearns family is of English descent and the Smiths are of Scotch origin.

Charles E. Stearns of this review was born in Addison county, Vermont, on the fourth day of December, 1857. He was reared on a farm and educated in the district schools of his native state and later in the public schools of Valley Springs, South Dakota. J. H. Stearns, the head of the family, first came to Rock county in the fall of 1872, driving through by ox team from Fort Dodge, Iowa. He filed a homestead claim to the southwest quarter of section 25, range 47, Beaver Creek township. He staid by the claim the first winter and in the spring following hauled lumber from Sheldon and erected a 16x24 feet frame shanty and made other preparations for the removal of his family from Vermont.

Charles with the rest of the family journeyed from the east and from Sheldon drove through to their new home, arriving

in Rock county on May 15, 1873. Prior to 1876 all the grain raised on the farm was hauled to market at Worthington. The Stearns family came in for their share of bitter and hazardous experiences incident to pioneer life, but they were fortunate in passing through the dark days of the grasshopper scourge with a minimum of suffering.

Our subject made his home on the old homestead until 1890, and from the time of attaining manhood undertook the active management of the farm. In the year mentioned Mr. Stearns rented a farm near by, which he conducted for five years; then in 1896 he bought and settled upon his present Denver township farm. Many substantial improvements have been added to the place, all through Mr. Stearns' own efforts, and he now possesses one of the ideal farms of the precinct. Mr. Stearns has for five years past been a member of the Denver township board of supervisors and has been the clerk of his school district since 1897. With his family he is a member of the Presbyterian church of Hardwick.

The marriage of Charles E. Stearns to May Alice Engle was solemnized at Luverne on December 7, 1887. Mrs. Stearns was born in Crawford county, Wisconsin, February 24, 1867. They are the parents of the following five children: Harold, born September 10, 1888; Harriett, born December 4, 1891; Arthur, born December 31, 1895; Robert, born May 14, 1898; and Gilbert, born July 19, 1902.

ERIC ENGBRETSON (1874) is a pioneer settler of Vienna township, which has been his home since he was a boy thirteen years of age. He is one of the well-known, progressive farmers and big stock raisers of the county. His finely improved farm, the northeast quarter of section 2, adjoins the town of Kenneth on the north and west.

A native son of Norway, Eric was born in Hollingdahl July 8, 1861, the son of Rasmus and Bergild (Erickson) Engbretson, both deceased. The former parent was born in 1815, arrived in the United States May 15, 1869, and resided for a few years in Allamakee county, Iowa, where he en-

gaged in farming which was also his occupation in the old country. He came as a pioneer to Rock county in 1873 and died in 1896 at the age of eighty-one years. His wife, the mother of our subject, passed away in the early nineties and was in her fifty-seventh year at the time of her death. Eric was a lad in his eighth year when with his parents he crossed the broad Atlantic and located in Allamakee county, Iowa. Thence, in 1874, he came with them to Rock county. The father proceeded to the new country the year previous to make all in readiness for his little family on the homestead he had taken, the northeast quarter of section 22, Vienna township. A home was established in a diminutive, sod-covered frame shack, 12x14 feet in dimension. During those first long, troublesome years, attended by the dread grasshopper plague, fearful blizzards and dangerous prairie fires, times which tried men's souls, it was a continual struggle for the heroic parents to keep the wolf from the door. During the winter of 1880-81, memorable for its severity, it was impossible to secure many necessary provisions, and the family were forced to subsist for the most part on ground corn, ground in a coffee mill. But deserved prosperity eventually fell to the lot of the sacrificing father.

Eric Engbretson of this review was educated in the district schools of Allamakee county and Vienna township and in the public schools of Luverne. He assisted with the management of the home farm until 1892, when he commenced farming in his own right. He bought land in Mound township, which he operated seven years, or until 1899, when he came into possession of his present farm, just at the time the Rock Island railway was building through the village of Kenneth. Mr. Engbretson served for six years as treasurer of school district No. 72. He is a member of the Blue Mound United Lutheran church.

In Winneshiek county, Iowa, on May 16, 1894, our subject was married to Sarah Boe, a native of that county. She was born July 3, 1871. To Mr. and Mrs. Engbretson have been born seven children, as follows: Bertha, born September 3, 1895; Anna, born February 21, 1897; Rika, born

February 11, 1899; Ella, born January 27, 1902; Mabel, born September 21, 1903; Robert, born June 10, 1906; and Emma, born March 21, 1909.

NELS BENSON (1876) is one of the homesteaders of Springwater township. He filed a claim to the southwest quarter of section 30 in the pioneer days of 1876, and has for thirty-five years maintained his residence on that location.

A native of Norway, Nels Benson was born on the farm of his father in Tellmarken on the first day of October, 1846. His parents were Ben and Annie (Aas) Romberg, and with them he came to America in 1873, at the age of twenty-seven years. For the first three years thereafter the family lived in Fillmore county, Minnesota. In the spring of 1876 our subject journeyed to Rock county and filed a claim to the land described above. He returned to Fillmore county for the winter, and the following spring came back and commenced the process of improvement, which, slow but certain, has transformed a barren, trackless prairie into a land of fruitful acreage. Mr. Benson was a director of his school district for many years. He owns stock in two prosperous enterprises, the Farmers Elevator company and the Farmers Telephone company of Beaver Creek.

Nels Benson was married in Springwater township April 15, 1886, to Esthru Johnson, who was born October 11, 1859. She is the daughter of John and Esthru (Olson) Johnson, residents of South Dakota. The following named children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Benson: Johanna Amelia, Bernt J., Arthur W., Ella C., Clarence E., Annie L., Ethel V. and Jessie L.

E. A. BROWN (1872). The city of Luverne has become known far and wide for its attractiveness and the substantial character and the constantly increasing expansion of its business enterprises. In this respect there are very few municipalities of its size that can compare with the Rock county metropolis. The citizens of Luverne to a unit take a justifiable pride in the prosperity of their city, and her men

of business are men of accomplishment, every one of whom is enthusiastically concerned in the welfare and progress of his home town. Perhaps no citizen and business man of Luverne has achieved a greater success through individual effort or is more universally known over a wide territory tributary to that city than is the subject of this biography, E. A. Brown, the controlling spirit of the large grain and commission business of E. A. Brown & Co.

Since 1872, when Mr. Brown was a youth of sixteen years, he has been a resident of Rock county and actively engaged in pursuits of achievement. He received a common school education in the town of Winneconne, Wisconsin, where he was born on October 15, 1856. Direct from the Wisconsin home, the Browns moved to Rock county, the father establishing the family home on the northeast quarter of section 14, Clinton township, land to which he filed a homestead claim. One son, William F. Brown, the brother of our subject, had come to the new land of promise so early as 1869 and had at that time taken a homestead on the same section in Clinton. William F. Brown, now a resident of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, enjoys the distinction of being the very first Rock county settler to secure title to his land by living the allotted five years on his original claim. Both the home farm and that formerly owned by William Brown is now the property of our subject, who owns a total of over 1000 acres in the vicinity.

During the first few years in Rock county E. A. Brown assisted with the cultivation of the old homestead; then, fired with an ambition to utilize a storehouse of energy for his own personal gain, he left the farm and turned his attention to railroading. Young Brown established himself as a sub-contractor, and in such capacity he contributed to the building of two railroads which were at the time seeking a foothold in the new but promising country. He was employed in the construction of the Omaha line to Rock Rapids and the St. Paul & Sioux City road from Sioux Falls west to its terminus at Mitchell. After this work was accomplished Mr. Brown successfully carried out a large contract in Iowa, requiring three years in its accomplishment.

Following this venture Mr. Brown decided to embark in the grain business, and, securing a position as buyer for an elevator in the little village of Ashcreek, he laid the foundation for the extensive business in this line which he eventually developed, solely through his own energy and remarkable business tact. Today E. A. Brown & Co. own and control thirty-five grain elevators in Minnesota, Iowa and South Dakota. In 1894, to obtain better railroad facilities and for the education of his children, Mr. Brown moved to Luverne, which since that date has been the headquarters of his growing business.

As one of Luverne's prominent citizens our subject has at all times had its varied interests as a growing city at heart. It was while Mr. Brown was serving as president of the village council, and largely through his efforts, that the old village form was supplanted by the city form of government, and in the new order of things he became Luverne's first mayor, an office he creditably filled two successive terms. A busier man than E. A. Brown is hard to find, a fact that is easily surmised when one recounts the many responsibilities with which he is concerned. In addition to his vast grain business he is identified in an official capacity with a number of progressive local enterprises, some of which are even wider in extent. Mr. Brown is the active head of the Minneapolis commission house of E. A. Brown & Co., the president of the German State Bank, of Ellsworth, Minnesota; vice president of the First National Bank of Luverne; president of the Luverne Pressed Brick company; vice president of the Luverne Automobile company; vice president of the Luverne Realty company; and president and leading stockholder in the Luverne Telephone company.

Mr. Brown is a man of family. On December 22, 1884, he was joined in marriage to Jennie E. Olds, a native of Wisconsin. She died August 16, 1907. Four children were born to this union, one of whom, Florence E., is deceased. She passed away November 25, 1900, at the age of fourteen years. The names of the surviving children are Susan K., Marion and Edward W., who is associated with his father in business. Mr. Brown was mar-

ried a second time on November 25, 1908, at Fulton, Illinois, to Mary E. Mitchell, a native of that place. The family are identified with the Presbyterian church of Luverne. By fraternal affiliation Mr. Brown is a Mason and Modern Woodman.

FRANK T. LOOSE (1872), one of Beaver Creek's respected citizens, is numbered among the very earliest of Rock county's pioneers. Mr. Loose was perhaps the first man to engage in the business of threshing in Rock county, an occupation he has followed continuously for more than thirty-five years and in which he is still actively engaged.

The only surviving son of August Loose, the oldest citizen in Rock county in point of years at the time of his death in 1904, and of Johanna (Roemer) Loose, our subject was born across the seas in the land of the kaiser on the thirteenth of July, 1850. He was still a youth in his teens when the family departed from Germany to make their home in America. This event occurred in the year 1867. The Looses first located in Blackhawk county, Iowa, for a few months in the town of Cedar Falls, and later in the village of Eplington. From that place they moved in 1872 to identify themselves with the wonderful progress in store for Rock county.

Luverne township was the family's first place of residence, on section 30 of which father and son each laid claim to a choice quarter section of land under the homestead act. August Loose selected as his allotment the southeast quarter of the section, while Frank located on the northwest quarter. It was during the year following that he made permanent settlement thereon, which was continued for a period of eight years. Mr. Loose then purchased the farm homesteaded by his father, which he substantially improved, and for a quarter of a century gathered the bountiful harvests it produced. In 1905 Frank Loose turned over the management of the home place to his son William, retired from farming and moved to the village of Beaver Creek, which continues to be his home.

Mr. Loose is known far and wide over the county by reason of his successful

career as a thresherman. His first threshing outfit, secured in the seventies, was a crude affair in comparison with the intricate arrangement and wonderful capabilities of the present day machine. This first machine was purchased at LeMars, Iowa, and relied solely on the faithful old horses on the farm to furnish the motive power. The territory covered by the threshermen, of which there were few, in those days was in no wise limited as it became later on. His field of operations covered the entire western half of the county from its northern to its southern extremities, and even extended so far into Iowa as Rock Rapids. Mr. Loose vividly recalls a somewhat singular occurrence that fell to his experience one day while moving his threshing outfit to the locality of Ash-creek. As he was crossing the stretch of prairie he was attracted by the seemingly curious phenomenon of smoke issuing from the ground. His curiosity as to the explanation of the event was soon satisfied. A man in indignant rage mysteriously appeared and promptly ordered the intruder off from his premises. He had planted himself on the roof of a concealed dug-out, one of the relics of pioneer days.

For twenty-five years Mr. Loose served faithfully as a director of school district No. 13, and for a decade he efficiently performed the duties of road overseer. Fraternally he is identified with the M. W. A., W. O. W. and M. B. A. lodges, and holds membership in the Methodist church. The subject of this review was married on the Luverne township homestead November 19, 1874, to Minnie Nurnberg, and to this union have been born the following five children: Charlie, William, Oscar, Clarence and Elvin.

Mrs. Loose is one in a family of six children who were born to William and Henriette (Wolgast) Nurnberg, who settled in Rock county in 1873. Mrs. Loose was born in Berlin, Germany, December 4, 1854, and was three years of age at the time of the family's removal to the United States. William Nurnberg, the father, was born in the country's capital on January 20, 1820. After arrival in this country in 1861, the Nurnbergs took up their residence in Buffalo, New York, which they left two years later to go to Shelby county, Illi-

nois. A removal was later made to Cedar Falls, Iowa, whence they came to Rock county in the days of sparse settlement. William Nurnberg died in Luverne April 9, 1910. His wife, Henriette (Wolgast) Nurnberg, preceded him to the grave by five years, the date of her decease being April 18, 1905.

PETER KILLE (1871) is one of the very oldest settlers and a well-known resident of Beaver Creek township. During the forty years of continuous residence in the county he has played an important and notable part in many of the events which have led to progress. His total worldly wealth when he permanently located in Rock county on May 29, 1872, consisted of nine dollars in cash, a team of horses, a colt, and two cows. An inventory today will show an entirely different condition of affairs. In Mr. Kille's name are recorded the northeast quarter of section 4 and the northwest quarter of section 3—a half section of the most productive and finely improved land in Beaver Creek township, and every acre worth at least \$100. Mr. Kille also owns a half section of land in Edmonds county, South Dakota, near Aberdeen.

A native of Wirttemberg, Germany, the subject of this biography was born on June 27, 1845, the son of Ignatius and Catherine (Mauthe) Kille, both of whom spent a useful life and died at a ripe old age. The father was an employe of the forest service of the German government and died in 1880. The mother passed away six years previous, in 1874.

Peter lived in the land of his birth until attaining his majority. He received a careful scholastic training in the city of Obernheim, and on completing his education he learned the trade of weaver, which he followed until his departure for America in 1867. He landed in New York City on the first day of April and went directly from that city to Chicago. There he secured employment in the breweries. Owing to ill health, he was compelled to seek new scenes and other labors and in 1871 he journeyed westward in search of a location. He traveled through Iowa,

came up into Rock county and then went on for seventy miles beyond Sioux Falls.

Mr. Kille returned to Chicago fully determined to establish a new home in Rock county, although it could boast but a very limited number of inhabitants. He induced Jacob Arends to become a companion on the trip and the two drove through the whole distance. That was in the year 1871. Our subject pre-empted the southeast quarter of section 35, Beaver Creek township, and upon his claim erected a sod shanty, which was his home for three years, or until 1875, when he sold out his rights and located on his present farm, the north-east quarter of section 4, to which he secured title as a homestead.

The grasshopper pestilence descended upon the land with many attendant sufferings, and Mr. Kille, no less than others as sturdy of heart and resolute of purpose, was caught in the maelstrom. He managed to raise a fair crop in comparison with some of his neighbors but he was hit hard later with the blight. He recalls distinctly the charitable assistance offered the poverty stricken settlers, most of them just making a start and handicapped for want of means, by the residents of Luverne.

The terrible blizzards and the destructive prairie fires were no less antagonistic to all cherished and ambitious hopes of our valiant pioneers. The loss of stock in the severe blizzard of January, 1873, was enormous, although Mr. Kille was one of the very few who were spared from disaster. The year following his stable and entire crop of hay were destroyed by the ravenous flames. But hungry as it was, the "lurid leveler" was powerless to consume the little sod shanty, although enveloped in flames and its outer covering of dry grass sacrificed to the destroyer.

In 1875, on coming into possession of his home quarter, Mr. Kille erected thereon a frame shanty, 12x16 feet, the place previously being absolutely devoid of any improvement. Times have changed, the smiles of fortune have been freely granted, and now Mr. Kille's farm, which was enlarged by purchase in 1885, is a model one. He lived in Luverne for three years following 1902, but since has resided on the old place, the scene of triumphal la-

bors. Since retiring from active management, his son Albert has conducted the farm with success. Mr. Kille is the treasurer of school district No. 73 and is a member of the Lutheran church.

In Beaver Creek township, on December 21, 1877, Peter Kille was married to Annie Johnson Janes, the daughter of John Johnson Janes and Astory Johnson Janes, both deceased. Mrs. Kille was born in Norway December 5, 1856, and came to the United States in 1870 and to Rock county five years later. Five children, two of whom are deceased, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Kille. They are Joseph A., born October 29, 1878, died December 1, 1892; John H., of Luverne, born February 10, 1880; Catherine S., born May 27, 1882, died December 1, 1907; Albert L., born April 22, 1887; Clarence A., born June 11, 1893.

P. GAINNEY (1875). Clinton township was a sparsely settled territory when Mr. Gainney of this biography first set foot upon it in pioneer days. From the dark days of the grasshopper scourge, with its bitter experiences, he has been an eyewitness of the development to the present day prosperity and an active participant in the events of the transition.

In Cary county, Ireland, on St. Patrick's day, 1852, Mr. Gainney began his earthly career. He is the son of Dennis and Mary (Fitzgerald) Gainney, who died in their native land. The father lived to a ripe old age and died some six years ago in Fillmore county, Minnesota. On his father's farm in the Emerald isle our subject passed the first twenty-two years of his life.

In 1874 Mr. Gainney was welcomed as a member of Uncle Sam's cosmopolitan family. The first year in America was spent in construction work for the Southern Minnesota Railway company in Fillmore county. In March, 1875, his residence in Rock county began, locating at that time in Luverne. For ten years he was employed on the Milwaukee railroad in different places along the line but all the time his home was at Luverne."

As early as 1876 Mr. Gainney bought from the railroad company his present farm,

part of the southwest quarter of section 5, Clinton township. He did not personally locate on the place until retiring from railroad work in 1885. However, from the start he assumed the active overcharge, hiring a man to live on and take care of the place. The first few years were a succession of discouragements. The grasshoppers descended upon the land, and the ravages they perpetrated are too well known to invite explanation. Each season the heavy expense of seed and labor had to be met, but there were no returns to be posted on the credit column. Many hazardous experiences in the blizzards of that day are recalled by Mr. Gainey. From a raw piece of prairie land Mr. Gainey's place has developed to a productive farm.

Mr. Gainey was married in Luverne on December 8, 1885, to Maggie Coughlin, a native of Wisconsin. Five children, all living at home, have been born to them, as follows: William Patrick, Mary, Catherine, Honora and Rosella. The family are members of St. Catherine's Catholic church in Luverne.

The present manager of the Gainey farm is William Patrick Gainey, the only son, who was born November 19, 1886, on the farm which has been his home to the present time. He was educated in the district schools and at the age of seventeen rented a farm in Luverne township, which he conducted three years. During the year following he was engaged in the horse business; then for two years he was absent from home, working at various occupations in different parts of the Dakotas and in eastern Minnesota. In the spring of 1910 he rented the old farm from his father, which he has since successfully conducted.

WILLIAM E. McDERMOTT (1871) enjoys the distinction of being the second white boy born within the borders of Rock county, the honor of first-born being credited to Charles Shoemaker. His father, Lawerance McDermott, was born in Ireland about 1841, and as a boy came to America and located in Clayton county, Iowa. There he was married to Julia Brazzell, and with his bride and two companions, J. C. Kelley and J. F. Shoemaker,

arrived with the very earliest of the pioneers in Rock county during the year 1870. Lawerance McDermott took as a homestead and tree claim land under the Blue mound, three miles northeast of Luverne, where he resided until called by death in 1886. His good wife, the mother of our subject, passed away ten years later, in 1896.

Nature could not have given a man a more beautiful or splendid environment for a birthplace than was afforded William E. McDermott, in the shadow of the historic Blue mounds, which in those primitive days stood out in even greater monumental splendor amid the expanse of trackless prairie than at the present time. His birth occurred August 13, 1871. He passed his youth on the old homestead and received an education in the district school and in the Luverne public schools.

From 1894 until 1898 Mr. McDermott resided in Sioux Falls. He then spent five years in Luverne, and in 1903 he moved back to the farm. In 1908 he settled on his present Vienna township farm, the southeast quarter of section 30, which he owns.

The marriage of William E. McDermott to Rena Herrick was solemnized at Chatfield, Minnesota, November 9, 1903. Mrs. McDermott is a native of Olmsted county, Minnesota. These parents have two children: Laurence, born August 27, 1905, and Milton, born April 14, 1907.

PEDER O. SKYBERG (1872). No man in Rock county is better known or more highly esteemed than is Peder O. Skyberg, pioneer, faithful public servant and successful banker. For a quarter of a century Rock county would have no other man to safeguard her treasury, a worthy tribute to the trust and confidence reposed in a man by his fellow citizens and an honor that but few men and on rare occasions are privileged to share.

Born in Norway April 18, 1851, he came to the United States nineteen years later. His parents, Ole and Maren (Peterson) Skyberg, lived and died in the land of the midnight sun. Peder received a thorough common school education in his native land. The first two years in the land

of his adoption were spent as a resident of Mitchell, Iowa. In the pioneer days of 1872 he arrived in Rock county and took as a homestead the southwest quarter of section 15, Martin township, where he lived and toiled until called by his county to take up the work it had prepared for him. From the earliest days Mr. Skyberg was an active participant in all that tended to the progress and development of his community. In 1878 he was elected a member of the board of county commissioners to represent the third district. He served as chairman of that body during the last year of his term. In the fall of 1882 he was elected county treasurer and continued without interruption until January 1, 1908, a period of twenty-five years. On retiring from the office Mr. Skyberg became instrumental in the organization of the National Bank of Luverne, of which he has since been the president. He still owns the old homestead in Martin township and other lands in Rock and Pipestone counties. He is a member of the Lutheran church.

Mr. Skyberg was married in 1887 to Anna Abrahamson, a native of Winneshiek county, Iowa, where she was born May 21, 1857. They are the parents of the following five children: Henrietta (Mrs. C. W. Walters), of Flandreau, South Dakota; Matilda, the wife of C. W. Erwin, of Omaha, a state bank examiner for Nebraska; Adeline, Walter O. and Philip A.

The organizers of the National Bank of Luverne were P. O. Skyberg, Fred B. Burley, Carl Wiese, E. H. Canfield, James McKeon and C. L. Sherman. The bank is capitalized for \$25,000 and has accumulated a surplus of \$6000 since commencing business. The present officers are: President, P. O. Skyberg; cashier, F. B. Burley; directors, P. O. Skyberg, E. H. Canfield, Carl Wiese, James McKeon, K. G. Oldre and A. H. Osborn.

OLE SEVERTSON (1872) is one of the early day homesteaders of Martin township who has maintained a continuous residence of nearly forty years on the land he filed claim to in the early seventies. A native of Norway, he was born at Sigdahl,

Prestegjeld, on the twenty-fourth of February, 1847. When a two year old child he departed from the scenes of his nativity and with his parents, Severt and Guri (Gunhus) Severtson, took passage for the new world.

The Severtson family passed their first summer in America at Rock Prairie, Rock county, Wisconsin, where the father secured employment at farm labor. In the fall he bought land near New Glarus, Green county, Wisconsin, where the family home was permanently established. Ole was educated in the district schools and took an active part in the management of the home farm until twenty-five years of age. In 1872 he journeyed to Rock county, Minnesota, and homesteaded the southeast quarter of section 8, Martin township. The first summer he broke ten acres of the land, but the next season's wheat crop sown thereon was totally destroyed by the grasshoppers. With optimistic spirit, Mr. Severtson stayed by the country, moving his family to the prairie farm in 1875, which has since been developed into a beautiful farm home, substantially improved. Mr. Severtson raises considerable stock. He is an ex-director and treasurer of school district No. 39, and has also served his community as road overseer. He is a stockholder in the Co-operative Creamery and Rural Telephone companies of Hills, and with his family belongs to the United Lutheran church.

Jackson county was the place and May 30, 1875, the date of the marriage of our subject to Anna Peterson Berge, who was born in Selbo Prestegjeld, Trondhjem, Norway, February 12, 1855, the daughter of Peder and Beret (Rosseth) Berge. Mrs. Severtson immigrated to this country with her parents in 1867 and settled with them in Olmsted county, Minnesota, later going to Jackson county, where the Berges still make their home. To Mr. and Mrs. Severtson have been born the following named children: Julia, born April 22, 1877; Christine, born July 3, 1879; Marie, born October 24, 1885; Severt O., born June 29, 1887; Alma Otilde, born June 7, 1889; Peder O., born April 23, 1892; Edwin G., born December 17, 1893.

KNUT ELLEFSON (1877) is an early day settler of Rose Dell township and one of its substantial agriculturists. He was born in Allamakee county, Iowa, October 17, 1855, and is the son of Halvor and Berget (Knutson) Ellefson. These parents came to the United States from their native land, Norway, in 1848 and lived two years in Rock county, Wisconsin. Halvor Ellefson then bought land in Allamakee county, Iowa, paying \$1.50 an acre, and that continued to be the family home until 1877, when settlement was made in Rock county, Minnesota.

Knut was educated in the country schools of his native county and assisted in the cultivation of the home farm there and also after the removal to Rock county. In 1900 he bought land in Hamlin county, South Dakota, upon which he lived seven years. He then returned to Rock county and his wife bought the farm, the northwest quarter of section 14, Rose Dell township, where he has reaped many a bountiful harvest. Mr. Ellefson served as constable of Rose Dell township for two years and was the pound master for the same length of time. He is a member of the Synod Norwegian Lutheran church.

The wife of Knut Ellefson was formerly Matilda Steen, who was born March 18, 1870, and is the daughter of Knut K. and Karn (Botelson) Steen, natives of Norway, and pioneers of Rose Dell. Mr. Ellefson was married to Matilda Steen on July 19, 1899. Two children have been born to these parents: Belvine K., born June 4, 1900, and Stella E., born March 15, 1902.

AMMON T. SEXE (1874) has for thirty-five consecutive years been a well known and prosperous farmer of Martin township. He was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, on the first day of February, 1858. His parents, Tosten and Gjore (Sponhem) Sexe, both natives of Hardanger, Norway, came to this country in 1856 and lived near Decorah, Iowa, until coming to Rock county in 1874.

Ammon was sixteen years of age when he became a resident of Rock county. His father homesteaded the southeast quarter

of section 25, range 47, Martin township. Two years later the father died, and since that day our subject has conducted the same farm, with deserved success. He is an extensive breeder of Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs. Mr. Sexe was the constable of Martin township for six years, and also has served as school director. He is a director of both the Hills Mercantile company and the Co-operative Creamery company and also holds stock in the Independent Harvester company of Plano, Illinois.

Ammon T. Sexe has been twice married. His first wife was Lena Hamre, a native of Norway, born in August, 1860, whom he married March 16, 1877. This faithful companion died, and two children about the same time, from diphtheria, in September, 1892. At the time of this sad event, Mr. Sexe was absent on a buying trip in Chicago, he being at that time a member of the firm of Jacobson & Sexe, general merchants, of Bruce. By his first wife the following named children were born: Theodore, born May 5, 1878; Martin, born December 16, 1880; Annie, born December 20, 1882; Jessie, born March 4, 1884; Oscar, born December 25, 1886; Anton, born October 10, 1890. Annie and Anton were the children who died with their mother.

Our subject was married the second time on October 26, 1903, to Martha Bly, the daughter of Peter and Angot Bly, of Hardin county, Iowa. Two children have blessed this union: Leonard A. and Abner P. The family are members of the United Norwegian Lutheran church.

CHARLES S. BRUCE (1876), ex-county auditor of Rock county, is one of the county's pioneer settlers. He is a native of Orange county, Vermont, and was born August 19, 1837. His father, David Bruce, was born in New Hampshire and his mother, Marendra (Sturtevant) Bruce, was born in Vermont. The paternal grandfather, Joseph Bruce, was born in County Downs, Ireland, in 1757, came to the United States in 1773 and fought in the revolutionary war. The Bruce family is of Scottish origin, having crossed the water to Ireland several generations ago.

The subject of this biography spent his boyhood days on a farm, received an education in the country schools and resided in his native county until nineteen years of age. At that age, his father having died several years before, young Bruce left home and located in Kane county, Illinois. Two years later, in 1858, he moved to Dodge county, Minnesota, where he engaged in farming until the outbreak of the civil war.

On August 14, 1862, Mr. Bruce enlisted in company B, of the Tenth Minnesota infantry, and served in the army until his discharge on August 19, 1865, as first sergeant of his company. The first year of his service was in the Indian campaign in the Dakotas and thereafter he was with the western army in the south. He participated in the battles of Tupelo, Mississippi, and Nashville, Tennessee, was with the forces in the raid after Price through Missouri, took part in the siege of Spanish Ford, Alabama, and several minor engagements.

After the war Mr. Bruce returned to Dodge county and in the fall of 1866 was elected county auditor, an office he held during the next six years. For several years thereafter he was engaged in various occupations, and in June, 1876, he came to Rock county. He took as a claim the southwest quarter of section 20, Rose Dell township, and engaged in farming until the fall of 1890. He then located in Luverne, where he has ever since resided. He was elected auditor in 1890 and held the office eighteen consecutive years. Retiring from the county office at the beginning of the year 1909, he has since lived a retired life in Luverne.

While residing in the country Mr. Bruce held a number of minor offices. He took part in the organization of Rose Dell township and was the first chairman of the board of supervisors, an office held for a few years. He was then chosen clerk of the township and served in that capacity ten years. Mr. Bruce is a member of the Blue Lodge and Chapter of the Masonic order and of the Grand Army of the Republic.

EDWIN H. CANFIELD (1881), ex-member of the Minnesota state senate, representing Rock and Pipestone counties, and an attorney at law of Luverne, is one of the prominent and respected citizens of the county. He has been practicing law in the city of Luverne for the past thirty years and has a lucrative practice. Senator Canfield is an able attorney and one of the city's most public spirited men, having taken an active part in its growth and enterprises.

The subject of this biography was born in Westfield, Wisconsin, December 27, 1855, his birthplace being a log cabin on the Wisconsin frontier. He spent the first ten years of his life in his native town and then accompanied his parents to Olmsted county, Minnesota, where he resided with them three years. The family home was then made on a farm in Jackson county, Minnesota, where our subject resided four years. During this time he attended a select school in the little village of Jackson, and after returning to Olmsted county, where the family home was again made, young Canfield attended the Rochester high school. He engaged in teaching for a time and then was given private instruction.

In 1878 Mr. Canfield married, and thereafter for a time engaged in teaching school and reading law. He entered the office of C. C. Willson, where he studied law until 1881. He was admitted to the bar in July, 1881. In June, 1881, the young lawyer located in Luverne, then a small village, and hung out his shingle. In that city he has ever since been engaged in the practice of his profession. He has built up a splendid law practice and has prospered. He has been called upon to serve in an official capacity a number of times. In 1885 he was appointed county attorney of Rock county to complete the unexpired term of Hon. P. E. Brown, now a justice-elect of the Minnesota supreme court, and he served in that capacity fourteen years. He was elected state senator in 1906 and served a four year term. For six years Mr. Canfield was a member of the Luverne board of education.

One of the institutions in which Senator Canfield took a leading part in founding and of which he is justly proud is the



EDWIN H. CANFIELD

Who Has Practised Law in Luverne Thirty
Years and is a Former State Senator.

public library of Luverne. So early as 1882 he was instrumental in forming a voluntary library association, the members of which each contributed twenty-five cents a month. In time the management of this was turned over to another association, organized by the ladies of Luverne, and later the village took hold of the institution, installed the library in the city hall, and supported it by taxation. Some years later Mr. Canfield was successful in inducing a client to donate enough money to purchase the site of the present Carnegie library. The handsome building now on the site was erected in 1904, and at its dedication on December 21, 1904, Mr. Canfield was the principal speaker. He was chosen one of the first trustees of the library.

Senator Canfield is one of a family of two children, a brother, Arthur Canfield, dying at the age of eleven years. His father was a native of Vermont, his mother of New York state. They moved to Wisconsin when young and were married at Waupun. Later they resided at Westfield, Wisconsin, in Olmsted county, Minnesota, in Jackson county, again in Olmsted county, and later located in Luverne, where both died.

The subject of this biography was married at Rochester, Minnesota, March 15, 1878, to Carrie A. Hills, a native of Wisconsin. They have two children, Nina and Arden L.

FRED E. HENTON (1873) is one of Beaver Creek's prominent business men. He was born in Columbia county, Wisconsin, February 19, 1868, but ever since his fifth year he has lived in Rock county. His father was a pioneer settler of Beaver Creek township, settling there in 1873. Our subject lived on this farm until 1881, when the family moved to Luverne. Fred attended the Luverne public schools until twenty years of age and then learned the blacksmith's trade in the shop of his father. For awhile he conducted a paint shop and in 1896 he located in Beaver Creek and established his present blacksmithing and wagon making business. He is also a dealer in implements, buggies and gasoline engines. He has built up a most

successful business and requires the services of his sons and two other men to conduct it.

Fred is the oldest in a family of three daughters and two sons whose parents are G. H. and Helen M. (Randall) Henton, residents of Rock county since 1873 and of the city of Luverne since 1881. The father is a native of Pennsylvania and the mother of New York. Soon after their marriage they moved to Fall River, Wisconsin, remaining there until coming to Rock county. They homesteaded land adjoining the present site of Beaver Creek. Mr. Henton conducted a blacksmith shop in Luverne for a quarter of a century. Since 1906 he has been employed as a traveling salesman.

Fred E. Henton of this review was married in Luverne on February 11, 1891, to Bertha Gronstad, who was born near the city of Christiania, Norway, on March 31, 1865. Mrs. Henton came to the United States in 1889. Both of her parents are buried in the old country. To this union the following eight children have been born: Clara, Helen, Harold, Verne, Anna, Mildred, Neal and Paul.

Mr. Henton has served several terms as a member of the village council and for a time filled the offices of constable and marshal. He is a member of the A. O. U. W. lodge and of the Methodist church, in which he is an active worker and of which he has been a trustee and recording steward for many years. He has been the superintendent of the Sunday school for twelve years.

WILLIS J. STEARNS (1873) is the son of one of the first of Beaver Creek township's pioneers, Joseph H. Stearns, and has enjoyed an unbroken residence of thirty-eight years in the county. He was born in Addison county, Vermont, January 17, 1856, and was there educated.

At the age of seventeen years, he left the Green Mountain state and journeyed westward with his parents. The father had preceded the rest of the family the year before and had filed a homestead claim to the southwest quarter of section 25, range 47, Beaver Creek township. Our subject assisted with the work on the

home farm until 1878, when he commenced farming on his own account. In 1904 he bought fifty acres on section 35. He now rents and lives on the northeast quarter of section 35, range 47. In connection with his farming interests, Mr. Stearns manages the elevator of the Minnesota and Western Grain company at the station of Manley. He was for twelve years the clerk of his school district, and for the past ten years he has held the office of postmaster of Manley. He is a member of the Congregational church and of the I. O. O. F. lodge.

In Beaver Creek township, on the second of January, 1884, Mr. Stearns was married to Gertrude E. Pinney, the daughter of Almon S. and Lucia A. (Green) Pinney, Vermonters and pioneer settlers of Beaver Creek township. Twelve children have blessed this union, of whom the following nine are living: Alice M., born March 15, 1886; Harry C., born July 19, 1887; Florence G., born August 12, 1890; Clark W., born December 26, 1891; Allan E., born October 5, 1895; Ralph P., born March 14, 1898; Mabel I., born September 20, 1900; Herbert S., born May 15, 1904; and Marjorie E., born September 21, 1905. The following three children are deceased: Eugene W., born February 4, 1885, died September 5, 1885, of membranous croup; Robert L., born December 5, 1888, killed by being run over by a load of gravel; Edith B., born April 3, 1894, died October 5, 1894, from scarlet fever.

The father of our subject, Joseph H. Stearns, was born in Addison county, Vermont, January 16, 1842, the son of Abijah and Rhoda (Sperry) Stearns, of Massachusetts and Vermont origin, respectively. Joseph Stearns was a Vermont farmer until 1872, when he came as a pioneer of Rock county and Beaver Creek township, homesteading land described above. He was one of the first settlers to put up buildings on his claim. He was married in New York on December 21, 1854, to Amanda E. Smith. Mrs. Stearns was born May 23, 1835, the daughter of John and Mary (Gillmore) Smith. Six children were born to these parents, of whom Willis J., of this sketch, is the oldest. Three of the family, Flora E., George P. and Edith, are

dead. Besides our subject there remains Charles E., born December 4, 1857, and Mary A., born April 2, 1867.

PETER C. STEEN (1870) comes from a well known Rock county family who have been prominently identified with its material growth and development for more than forty years. Our subject is the son of Ole P. and Betsey (Berge) Steen. The latter was born in Norway on November 23, 1843, and came to the United States when seven years of age. The venerable couple were the parents of six children, Peter C., Hilda A. (Mrs. Peter Boyson), Josephine C. (Mrs. Andrew Sanderson), Charles O., George A. and Oscar B.

The father, Ole P. Steen, was one of the county's early day pioneers. He was a native of Norway, born January 14, 1832. While in the old country he became a master of the blacksmith trade. In the spring of 1854 he started for America, making the journey in a sailing vessel which consumed three months' time. Arriving in the new world, he located at Waupun, Wisconsin, where for two years he lived and worked at his trade. Then after a year's residence in Fox Lake, Wisconsin, he moved to Juneau county, in the same state, where he was engaged in plying his craft when the civil war broke out.

At the call for volunteers, Ole P. Steen was one of the first to spring to the defense of his adopted country. He enlisted in company D, Fourth Wisconsin volunteer infantry, and served during the war. The last two years he was transferred to a company of cavalry. After four and one-half years of honorable service, most of the time on southern battle-fields, he was discharged on October 15, 1865. Among the engagements in which Mr. Steen was an active participant were the battle of New Orleans, April 25, 1862; the engagement at Grand Gulf on May 26, of the same year; at Baton Rouge, August 5, 1862; Camp Bisland, April 12 and 13, 1863; Port Hudson, May 27, 1863; and Clinton, Louisiana, June 3, 1863.

After the laying down of arms, Mr. Steen located in Adams county, Wisconsin, and with two other gentlemen erected

a grist mill, but at the close of a year he sold out his share in the enterprise and returned to his old home in Juneau county and worked as a smith until June, 1870, the date of his arrival in Rock county. In July of that year he filed a homestead claim to the northeast quarter of section 32, Clinton township, which was his home to the time of his death, which occurred February 3, 1903. The town of Steen was named in honor of him and his brother, John P. Steen. Mr. Steen's marriage to Betsey Berge took place in Adams county, Wisconsin, on May 10, 1864. While in Wisconsin he held the office of postmaster at Arkdale, Adams county, for some time. He was a loyal and energetic citizen of his precinct and was elected to many local offices of trust during his long residence in Clinton township. He was an active member of the G. A. R.

It was in Juneau county, Wisconsin, on the sixteenth of August, 1867, that Peter C. Steen of this biography was born. When only a child of three years he accompanied his parents in their removal to Rock county and settled with them on the old homestead, which continued to be his home until 1908. As a boy he attended the district schools and assisted with the work at home. For the past fifteen years he has been the owner and operator of his present farm on section 28, but it was not until 1908, the year of his marriage, that he built on the place and commenced to make it his abode. Prior to that he lived on the home farm. He is the owner of an up-to-date threshing outfit and has been engaged in that business for twenty years.

At Sioux Falls, on January 2, 1908, Mr. Steen was married to Trina L. Larson, the daughter of Lars Larson and Trina Louisa Hanson, both of whom are living in Norway. Mrs. Steen was born in that country August 13, 1876, and came to America in 1906. Two children have blessed this union, Otis L. M., born November 27, 1908, and B. Louisa, born April 22, 1910. Mr. and Mrs. Steen are members of the United Lutheran church. For four years our subject served as constable of Clinton township. He was instrumental in organizing the farmers' telephone line and has served as president and manager of the company since its inception.

FREDERICK A. BAKER (1872) is an early day settler of Rock county and the leading merchant of Magnolia. He has been in business at that point for the past eighteen years, opening in 1893 the first meat market in the village. The next year he added a line of groceries and two years later branched out into the general mercantile business in a little building 16x24 feet in dimension. Increased business resulted in successive expansion in quarters. The present commodious structure, 24x60 feet, was erected in 1903 and houses the most complete line of dry goods, clothing, hats, shoes, groceries, hardware, etc., to be found in the village.

Frederick A. Baker beheld the things of earth for the first time on September 28, 1859, at Canton, St. Lawrence county, New York. Seven years later he moved with his parents to Woodstock, Illinois, and from there, in 1868, to Sioux City, Iowa, then a straggling village of some 1500 souls. Our subject attended school in that place and in 1872 accompanied his parents to Rock county. The father homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 4, Kanaranzi township, in the cultivation of which Frederick assisted for eleven years. He then located in Magnolia township to oversee property of the Rock County Farming company. Three years later he moved on land of his own on section 26, which he farmed until moving to Magnolia village in 1893 and engaging in business.

Our subject is the son of Marcus F. Baker, born at Canton, New York, of old Yankee stock. Marcus Baker married Anna M. Stephenson and moved with his family from New York to Illinois, later to Sioux City, Iowa, and then to Rock county, the scene of his greatest labors. The family home was on the old homestead, the northwest quarter of section 4, Kanaranzi township, until 1882, when the family moved to Brookings county, South Dakota, and settled on a tree claim. Both parents are living, at the ages of seventy-nine and seventy-six years, respectively. All the seven children in the Baker family, with the exception of the oldest daughter, Kate, are living. Their names are Clara M., Frederick A., of this sketch; Orson J., Frank E., William H. and George E.

Our subject was married in Magnolia township March 31, 1885, to Hattie B. Kerney, born in St. Lawrence county, New York, May 14, 1863. Only two of their six children are living. They are Clara M., born December 10, 1887, and Frederick A., Jr., born February 5, 1891. Mr. Baker was the clerk of Magnolia township for seven years and since moving to the village has been treasurer of the same precinct. He is a member of the school board and the village council. He belongs to the Masonic and Modern Woodmen orders.

NELSON R. REYNOLDS (1873) is an early day settler of Rock county and of the city of Luverne and has been prominently in the forefront in many of the movements that since the seventies have tended to a greater Rock county. He has held many positions of trust during his long residence and is now serving as city justice.

Nelson R. Reynolds is one of two sons (the other being Charles A. Reynolds, of Luverne), whose parents were Lester and Anna (Mosher) Reynolds, both natives of New York state. At an early date they settled in Buchanan county, Iowa, where for a long period the elder Mr. Reynolds was a leading hardware merchant. In 1897 they removed to Luverne, where they resided until called by death, the father in November, 1904, at the age of eighty-nine years, and the mother in November, 1902, at the age of eighty-three years.

Our subject was born in Columbia county, New York, the twenty-fifth day of February, 1842. At the age of fourteen he accompanied his parents to their new home in Buchanan county, Iowa, where he attended school and worked on his father's farm up to the time of the outbreak of the civil war. In the spring of 1862 Mr. Reynolds enlisted in company G, First Iowa infantry, and served continuously until the close of the conflict. He was a participant in many of the most memorable engagements of the mighty struggle, including Port Gibson, Champion Hill and Black River Bridge. He was present at the siege of Vicksburg and took part in the desperate charge on the twenty-second

of May, when the union forces were repulsed. He saw the finish, the surrender of the city after an obstinate defense, on July 4. He saw service in the battles of Jackson and Spanish Ford, and later was under General Banks in his expedition up the White and Red rivers. His command was stationed in Texas for a while and then joined Sherman on his famous march to the sea. Mr. Reynolds, however, did not accompany this expedition, as he had been previously detailed on special duty at Memphis, where he was stationed at the time of his discharge.

At the return of peace Mr. Reynolds exchanged his arms for books and for a time was a student at the Lennox Collegiate institute, located at Hopkington, Iowa. He then located at Jessop, Iowa, where he was married and worked at his trade of tinner, learned from his father. A few years were spent at Parkersburg, Iowa; then in 1873 his residence in Rock county and Luverne commenced. For awhile he clerked in a store, then with George Daniels engaged in the hardware business, their store being at the east end of Main street. On selling out he moved on a homestead claim in Springwater township, the northwest quarter of section 14, and remained there until proving up, then returned to Luverne.

Mr. Reynolds had taken up the study of law privately, taking the course advised by the Ann Arbor law school, and was admitted to the bar in 1875. Immediately thereafter he engaged in the practice of the profession. He was elected judge of probate in 1878 and served two years. Later he was called upon to fill the office of county attorney, but resigned before his term had expired on account of his wife's health, which necessitated a removal to Virginia. Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds returned to Luverne at the end of two years. He served as justice of the peace for several terms in the early days and for the past eight years has been one of the city justices, his office being in the city hall. Mr. Reynolds was one of the first clerks of Springwater township, and was village recorder at one time. He was a member of the Luverne school board and on the building committee at the time the present Central building was erected.

Nelson R. Reynolds was married at Jessop, Iowa, on November 18, 1868, to Mary M. Stoddard, a native of Connecticut, born October 28, 1849, and a daughter of Isaac A. and Celia M. (Curtis) Stoddard. The Stoddards are an old New England family who trace their residence in America back to the year 1620. Mrs. Reynold's great-great grandfather was a captain and her great grandfather a first lieutenant in the revolutionary war. They are the parents of two children: Clifford W., of Omaha, born September 19, 1869, and Clayton S., of Sioux Falls, born March 4, 1876.

Mr. Reynolds is a member of the Presbyterian church and of John A. Dix Post No. 96, G. A. R., of which he is adjutant at the present time.

OLE G. QUALLEY (1876) is the son of one of the pioneer settlers of Martin township and is himself one of its oldest residents and progressive farmers. A native of Norway, he was born in Valdres January 28, 1866. His parents, Guldbrand Kvale and Berit (Fystro) Kvale, had been married for fifty-seven years at the time of the latter's death, March 26, 1905. She was born on Christmas day, 1825. The father was born in 1824.

In 1870 Ole G. Qualley of this biography, then a lad four years of age, accompanied his parents in their journey to the United States and located with them in Winneshek county, Iowa, where the elder Mr. Qualley engaged in farming until 1876. It was in that year that the family home was established in Rock county. The removal was a long and tedious one. The family departed from the Iowa home on October 14, but did not arrive in Rock county until the early part of November. The father bought the homestead right to the southeast quarter of section 4, Martin township, where he still resides at a good old age, having passed the allotted four-score of years.

Ole G. Qualley lived on the home farm until 1892. As a boy he attended the district schools near by and assisted with the work on the farm. In the summer of 1892 he married and the same year commenced farming the southeast quarter of section 28,

land purchased from his father. At the time of his taking possession there was not a tree on the place and all that adorned it was a dilapidated frame house and a small shack of a barn. In the years which have ensued the farm has been improved and developed to its present day attractiveness.

Mr. Qualley has from the very earliest days been a useful and active citizen in his community and has expended much of his time and means in the promotion of the public interest. In 1902, with a Mr. Helgeson he platted the Helgeson & Qualley addition to the village of Hills on land bought by the two gentlemen for that purpose. He was one of the organizers of the Hills Co-operative Creamery company and for the past eleven years has served as the president of the board of directors of the thriving company. He was the first man to bring milk to the creamery. For a number of years he has been a member of the board of directors of the Hills Mercantile company. For three years he was secretary of the Rose Dell Mutual Farmers Fire and Lightning Insurance company. He is also a stockholder in the First National Bank of Hills.

Likewise in local civic and religious affairs, Mr. Qualley has been prominently identified. For five years, from 1902 to 1907, he served efficiently as the chairman of the Martin township board and two years later he was called upon to fill the office of clerk. Since 1908 he has served as the clerk of the school district which includes the public school of the village of Hills. He and his family are members of the Synod Lutheran church of Hills, and of this organization Mr. Qualley was treasurer for ten years.

Mr. Qualley was married in Hills on June 8, 1902, to Josephine M. Larson, the daughter of William and Gertrude Larson. The latter is living, but the father died in 1890. Mrs. Qualley was born in Winona, Minnesota, November 12, 1869, and came with her parents to Rock county in the spring of 1878. They have the following children: George Waldemar, born July 25, 1896; Gertrude Berthea, born February 15, 1899; Olga Josephine, born November 28, 1902; Arnold Reuben, born October 15, 1904; Harold Theodore, born September 17, 1908.

OTTO A. PAULSEN (1879), the efficient representative of the third district on the board of county commissioners and the chairman of that body, is a well known Clinton township farmer. He was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on March 29, 1875, and is the son of John and Ottilie (Nietzke) Paulsen, now residents of Flagler, Colorado.

John Paulsen, the father of our subject, was born in a present day province of Germany which at the time was Danish territory, the transfer taking place as a result of the Franco-Prussian war. He came to America about 1865 and for a number of years was employed in a Milwaukee foundry. He settled in Rock county in 1879 and was among the pioneers of Clinton township. He bought from the railroad company the northwest quarter of section 31, the present home of Otto Paulsen. The mother is a native of Germany. She came to America in 1867 and was married to Mr. Paulsen in Milwaukee. The venerable couple have made their home in Colorado since 1908.

Otto came with his parents from Milwaukee to Rock county when a child of four years. His home since then has been the original farm settled upon in the early days by his father. His education in the district schools of Clinton township was supplemented by a three years' course in the Sioux City Normal school, from which he holds a diploma. He assisted his father until 1890, when he rented the farm and is at present engaged in farming the place together with other land in the vicinity, which he has owned for twenty years. He engages quite extensively in dairying and in the raising of fancy stock. He makes a specialty of the thoroughbred Holstein cattle and the Silver Laced Wyandotte chickens.

Mr. Paulsen has from the first played a prominent part in the civic and political affairs of his community and county. He was township supervisor during 1907 and 1908. In the last named year he was elected to his present office of county commissioner on the republican ticket from the third district, which comprises Clinton, Martin and Hills. He was chosen chairman of the board in January, 1911. Mr. Paulsen is a stockholder in the Farmers State Bank of Hills, the Steen Farmers Elevator company

and the Co-operative Creamery company of Hills. He holds membership in the M. W. A. lodge of Steen and the A. F. & A. M. of Luverne.

On December 5, 1900, at Sweetwater, Nebraska, Mr. Paulsen was united in marriage to Kate Mortensen, the daughter of N. P. Mortensen, of the Nebraska town. Mrs. Paulsen was born at Rock Rapids, Iowa, January 12, 1875. They are the parents of three children: Mary, born Christmas day, 1902; John, born April 8, 1903; and Fred, born May 1, 1908.

OLAUS HAROLDSON (1878), who owns and farms the southwest quarter of section 1, Rose Dell township, has been a resident of Rock county for thirty-three years, ever since he was a child four years of age. He was born in Allamakee county, Iowa, October 20, 1874, just four years after the settlement in that county by his parents, Lars and Olave (Olson) Haroldson, who were born and lived in Norway until 1870.

On coming to Rock county, the father of our subject filed a homestead claim to a quarter of section 12, Rose Dell township, where Olaus grew to manhood, receiving his education in the near by district school. He assisted with the work on the home farm until 1896, when he bought his present farm from his father. Mr. Haroldson has twice journeyed to Norway, the land of his forefathers. The first trip was made in 1903 and was of nearly a year's duration. He spent three months on the return in Allamakee, the Iowa county of his birth. The second trip to the old country, consuming eight months' time, was made in 1907.

Olaus Haroldson was joined in marriage at McVile, North Dakota, on March 24, 1910, to Alvina Bjerke, who was born November 16, 1888, the daughter of Anund and Amanda Bjerke, of Larvick, Norway. To Mr. and Mrs. Haroldson one child has been born, Lilen Asbjorn, born March 6, 1911. Mr. Haroldson owns stock in the Farmers Elevator company and the Co-operative Mercantile company of Jasper.

BENHARDT A. ROEN (1875) has passed his entire life on the Vienna township farm he now owns and conducts. His parents,

Arne and Ingeborg Roen, were among the early settlers of the township and were among those who experienced in full measure the discouragements and hardships of those trying times. With only a yoke of oxen and a few household goods, these valiant pioneers began their wedded life in Rock county. They took as a homestead claim the northeast quarter of section 18. Arne Roen was a native of Hollingdahl, Norway, and came to the United States in 1862. He died November 1, 1900, at the age of eighty-three years. His wife, Ingeborg Roen, died in April, 1909.

On the Vienna township homestead, on the fifteenth of August, 1875, Benhardt A. Roen commenced his earthly career. He was born in the sod house on his father's place, which was later replaced by a stone dwelling. Our subject has conducted the farm of his birth ever since he was a youth of nineteen. He came into possession of the land in 1896, and in 1901 bought another 160 acres in the same section. Mr. Roen farms a half section of land and devotes considerable attention to the raising of high grade stock. He has served as the treasurer of school district No. 28 since 1908.

At the Blue Mounds church in Vienna township, on May 25, 1899, Mr. Roen was united in marriage to Agnes Knudtson, who was born in Odda, Hardanger, Norway, August 10, 1876, and who came to this country at the age of sixteen. To these parents have been born three daughters, named as follows: Ella, born February 24, 1901; Alma, born March 22, 1903; Rosie, born September 19, 1906. The family are members of the Blue Mounds Norwegian Lutheran church.

SAMUEL B. NELSON (1879). There is some distinguishing feature about nearly every town or city one may visit which comes to one's mind when the name of the town is mentioned. In the case of Luverne it is Nelson Brothers' store, which is conducted by Samuel B. Nelson of this sketch. No one has ever visited Luverne who has not also visited this mammoth mercantile establishment; it is a distinguishing feature of the city. It is to be doubted if there is another city in the state of Minnesota of

of the size of Luverne which boasts of a retail mercantile establishment equal to this one.

The subject of this review was born on his father's farm near the town of Calmar, in Winneshiek county, Iowa, on January 2, 1863. His father, Nels Nelson, died in Calmar in 1873 and his mother, Carrie Nelson, died in 1895. The only living children of these parents are Mr. Nelson, of this sketch, and Gurina (Mrs. F. C. Mahoney), of Los Angeles, California.

On his father's Iowa farm Samuel B. Nelson spent his boyhood days and secured his primary education. At the age of sixteen years, in March, 1879, he located in Luverne, where he has ever since resided. During the winter following his arrival he entered the employ of Landin & Nelson, general merchants, and was in the employ of that firm and the one which succeeded it until 1885, when he became a member of the firm. For two years the business was owned by Nels and Samuel B. Nelson and conducted under the firm name of Nelson Brothers. Then F. C. Mahoney was admitted as a partner and the firm name was Nelson Brothers & Company until the first of the year 1901, when the brothers bought out Mr. Mahoney's interests, when the firm name again became Nelson Brothers, which it has ever since remained.

The health of the senior member of the firm having failed, in 1904, at his request, the business was incorporated and a nephew, N. C. Gunderson, who had been identified with the business for twenty-five years, was admitted as a member. Nels Nelson died April 8, 1907, and Mr. Gunderson in May, 1909, and since that date the subject of this review has been in charge of the business, which has grown to such proportions that twenty-seven clerks are required to conduct the business.

Mr. Nelson has always taken an active part in political and business affairs of his city and county. On various occasions he has served as a member of the city government. For three years he was a member of the state board of equalization, having been appointed by Governor John A. Johnson during his first term. Mr. Nelson is now a member of the John A. Johnson memorial commission. In the campaign of 1910 Mr. Nelson received the nomination of the dem-

ocratic party for the state senate from the district comprising the counties of Rock and Pipestone, and, although he made his canvass single-handed, without an organization, he came within forty-seven votes of securing the election, although the district is one of the strongest republican districts in the state. His personal popularity and the belief of the people in his ability and honesty of purpose brought him many votes from the opposite party. Fraternally Mr. Nelson associates with the Knights of Pythias order.

At Rochester, Minnesota, on September 8, 1888, occurred the marriage of Mr. Nelson to Ida Baker, a native of the city in which she was married. To this union have been born the following named three children: Rodney, Eleanor and Thelma.

Nels Nelson, who founded the business of Nelson Brothers and who was for so many years connected with the firm, was one of the pioneer merchants of Luverne and a man held in the highest esteem by his associates and the people of Luverne generally. He was a native of Norway and was born February 12, 1847. At the age of twelve years he came to America with his parents and settled at Calmar, Iowa. There he grew to manhood, secured his education and obtained his early experiences in the mercantile business as a clerk in one of the stores of Calmar.

In June, 1876, Nels Nelson came to Luverne and the next year established the business which was destined to grow to such mammoth proportions. His first store was a modest affair in the building now occupied by the McDermott barber shop. A little later the firm became Landin & Nelson and the location was east of the former store in the middle of the block. In January, 1881, Landin & Nelson bought a stock of goods from William Jacobsen and occupied the building now the home of the Luverne Mercantile company, where business was conducted until the present building was occupied. In January, 1882, Nels Nelson bought out his partner, and in 1885 Samuel B. Nelson became a member of the firm, as related above. The business grew to such proportions that the new home of Nelson Brothers was erected and occupied for the first time on November 1, 1892. The building is of brick, 75x136 feet in size, and

the firm occupies both stories and the basement with the stock.

Nels Nelson was a progressive man and did much for the development of Luverne in the early days. Upon the organization of the First National Bank in 1889 he became the vice president, and for a number of years he was a member of the local board of education. He never married but made his home with his widowed mother in Luverne for many years and later with his brother. Nels Nelson died April 8, 1907.

CHARLES F. SKOVGAARD (1872), one of the substantial farmers and large land owners of Martin township today, as a boy fully experienced the days of bitter trial and hardship which fell to the lot of the courageous pioneer in the early seventies. The son of Simon C. and Anna Maria (Schram) Skovgaard, he was born in the village of Heils, near the city of Kolding, Denmark, March, 31, 1863.

In the spring of 1872 our subject left his native land and with his parents crossed the briny deep to the country of magic enchantment. The family lived during their first summer in the United States at Cedar Falls, Iowa. Report of the new country in southwestern Minnesota having been received with interest, the resolution to seek a home and fortune there was made. So in the fall of 1872 the little Danish family left their Iowa abode and via the prairie schooner route made the journey to Rock county. The first winter was passed near the present site of Ashcreek, in Clinton township.

Early in the following spring the father took as a homestead claim the southeast quarter of section 19, Martin township, land which he still owns. With no means or backing whatever, the start in the new country was hard to make. In order to keep the wolf from the door, Simon Skovgaard, the father, was compelled to seek employment of some kind, which proved to be difficult to find. He walked all the way to Sioux City but found nothing for his willing hands to do. From there he walked the ninety-odd miles to Worthington, where he succeeded in finding temporary employment on a gravel train. When the time came for gathering the crop, or

the meager portion of a crop left untouched by the grasshoppers, Mr. Skovgaard joined the harvesters who worked along the Rock river.

Meanwhile Charles, a lad of ten, had spent the season in herding cattle for a number of the scattered settlers in the neighborhood. A boy but lately come from a staid old city across the sea, the experience on the raw and open prairie was a novel and thrilling one, especially when the violent thunder and wind storms arose and swept over the trackless expanse, filling the young breast with emotions of terror and fear.

When the family settled in Martin township the nearest neighbor was three miles distant. Out on the prairie a sod shanty, 12x18 feet, was erected, and for eight years the rude structure was the family's only shelter from the elements. During that first fall, in 1873, a threatening fire came from the south, sweeping all before it. It was only by the narrowest margin and after anxious hours of labor that the little home was saved from the devastating flames. The year following was one of even greater hardship. The father was stricken with typhoid fever and was confined to his bed for many months. That year the first crop was planted. Ten acres were put into wheat, but the grasshoppers descended upon the land and after getting in their ruinous work, the yield averaged about ten bushels to the acre. There was a fair crop in 1875, but the following year was another flat failure. From thirty to forty acres sown to wheat, scarcely 100 bushels were harvested. Better days and prosperity were to follow, and in the intervening years the Skovgaards have built up one of Rock county's choicest farms. Simon Skovgaard is still enjoying life and makes his home with his son Charles. His wife died October 10, 1900.

Charles Skovgaard lived on the old homestead with his parents until attaining the age of twenty-four. His education was received in the district schools and at Augustana college, Canton, South Dakota, where he was a student for two years in the early eighties. On May 25, 1887, he was married at Inwood, Iowa, to Isabella Moen, the daughter of H. T. and Dorethy (Sohus) Moen, now residents of Inwood. Mrs. Skov-

gaard was born October 23, 1868, in Winneshek county, Iowa.

After marriage Mr. Skovgaard rented the home place and farmed it for four years. He then moved to a farm on section 24, range 47, which he had bought, and farmed that place for the next sixteen years. In 1907 he located on his present farm, the northwest quarter of section 30, which he had bought three years previously. He now farms a total of 240 acres and rents out the balance of his property. He raises a great deal of stock, especially Shorthorn cattle. He is a stockholder in the Hills Co-operative Creamery company. Among the elective offices he has held are justice of the peace for six years, trustee for a term of six years and clerk of school district No. 37 for sixteen years. He and his family are members of Trinity church, Hills.

Mr. and Mrs. Skovgaard are the parents of six living children: Simon A., Clara Isabella, Dorinda, Herman Daniel, Almema Maria and Dorethy Paulina. One child Herman Daniel died in infancy.

OLAF SKYBERG (1881) is one of the prominent merchants and best known citizens of the enterprising little town of Hills. He has been a resident of Rock county since 1881. A native of Norway, he was born on December 9, 1860, the son of Ole and Maren Skyberg, who were the parents of twelve children, nine of whom are living. The father, Ole Skyberg, was born in 1806 and died in 1898, while his wife passed away seven years before that date.

Olaf received a common school education in the land of his birth and at the age of twenty-one crossed the Atlantic to make settlement in the new world. He came direct to Rock county and for five seasons was employed on different farms in Martin township and for two terms was a student at Beloit college, of Beloit, Iowa. In the fall of 1886 Mr. Skyberg journeyed back to his old home in Norway, and on returning the following spring, located in Luverne. For the next three years he was employed as bookkeeper, first by Nelson Bros., and later by the First National Bank.

In the spring of 1889 our subject moved to Beaver Creek and in company with John Vale engaged in the general mercantile

business under the name of Skyberg & Vale. This association continued for a period of two years, until August, 1891, since which time Mr. Skyberg has been a resident of Hills and engaged in a similar business. From the first he has been prominently identified with the town's progress, its civic, social and religious affairs. Beginning business in a modest way, he has prospered until today he owns one of the leading mercantile establishments in the village, town property and farm lands in South Dakota.

Since July, 1898, Mr. Skyberg has served efficiently as the postmaster of Hills. He was one of the organizers of the Hills school district, No. 66, and has since been the treasurer of the board of education. He held the office of village recorder from the time of the town's incorporation until the spring of 1909, and has also been either secretary or treasurer of the Hills Co-operative Creamery company since its organization. While a resident of Beaver Creek he served as recorder and township trustee. Mr. Skyberg is a deacon in the Free Norwegian Lutheran church.

Olaf Skyberg was married in Hills on June 25, 1887, to Hilda Broderud, a native of Norway, born in 1865. To this union the following seven children have been born: Olaf A., Morten G., Georgiana, Helga O., Mabel, Clara and Selma.

THADDEUS A. GROUT (1872) has spent all except the first few weeks of his thirty-nine years as a resident of Rock county and most of that time has been passed in the township of Beaver Creek, where he now engages in farming. He is the son of one of the early day settlers of the precinct, the late Eli Grout, a native of New York state and until his death in 1910 a resident of Beaver Creek. The mother of our subject, Emeline (Snow) Grout, also a native of New York state, died in 1907.

To these parents Thaddeus Grout was born in Fall River township, Columbia county, Wisconsin, on April 5, 1872. When only a few weeks old—in June of the year of his birth—the family came to Rock county. The father took as a homestead claim a quarter section of land on section 24, Beaver Creek township, and on that farm our subject grew to manhood. He supplement-

ed a country school education with a two years' course in the Luverne high school. Until he was twenty-five years of age he lived on the old homestead, working for his father and for the last two or three years there renting the home farm. In the fall of 1897 he married and for the next eight years engaged in farming rented land in the neighborhood of his old home. He moved to the village of Beaver Creek in 1905, bought the dray line and conducted it for a year and a half. He located on his present farm, the southeast quarter of section 35, in 1907. He engages extensively in stock raising and feeding, raising Chester White hogs and good grade cattle.

In partnership with a brother, W. I. Grout, our subject owns a half section farm in Mercer county, North Dakota, which was purchased in 1902. Mr. Grout has taken quite an active part in local politics. He was a member of the board of township supervisors four years, during two years of which time he was the chairman, and served as a director of school district No. 9 for three years. He is a member of the M. W. A. lodge of Luverne.

The marriage of Mr. Grout to Julia May Brooks occurred at Beaver Creek on August 17, 1897. Mrs. Grout is a daughter of E. C. and Julia Brooks, of Beaver Creek, and was born near Sheldon, Iowa, April 26, 1878. Two children, Frank and Everett, both deceased, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Grout.

WILLIAM A. MAYNES (1876), of Luverne, is an early day settler of Rock county. He established his home in the county thirty-five years ago, at that time filing a homestead and tree claim to the east half of section 26, Vienna township. This land he improved and made the scene of his activities until 1893, when he retired from active farming and moved to the city of Luverne. He deals in real estate and is occupied with the management of his extensive property interests. In addition to his Rock county land Mr. Maynes is the owner of a half section of Murray county soil, farm lands in Canada, and town property in Luverne, St. Paul and Brookings, South Dakota.

A native of county Roscommon, Ireland,

William A. Maynes of this review was born the twelfth day of May, 1847, the son of Robert and Jane (McGuire) Maynes, both deceased. Robert Maynes died on Irish soil. When William was three years of age the family departed from the old country and made settlement in the province of Quebec, Canada. It was there that the mother was called by death. Besides our subject there are two other sons living, who were born to Robert and Jane (McQuire) Maynes. They are Col. James Maynes, of Waterloo, Quebec, and Samuel G. Maynes, of Dominion City, Manitoba.

Waterloo, Quebec, was the home of Mr. Maynes until he attained the age of eighteen years. In the schools of that place he secured his education. Crossing the border he located at Sparta, Wisconsin, and since then has been a loyal subject of Uncle Sam. During his residence in Sparta, which continued until his removal to Rock county, he was married to Josephine Isham, a native of Wisconsin and a daughter of A. H. and Sabrina Isham. This event was solemnized in June, 1870.

As a Rock county farmer William Maynes devoted himself quite extensively to the breeding of high grade stock, especially cattle and Shire and French coach horses. By political affiliation he is a stanch democrat, and while a resident of Vienna township he was twice elected to serve a full term as a member of the board of county commissioners from the district comprising the townships of Vienna, Luverne, Magnolia and Kanaranzi. Mr. Maynes was a member of the board under whose direction the present Rock county court house was built. Our subject is a prominent Mason and has filled many of the chairs in the several lodges of that order, up to and including the thirty-second degree.

JOHN B. IVERSON (1880), postmaster of Hardwick, is a gentleman who has attained prominence in a business and social way since taking up his residence in the county thirty-one years ago. He was born in Norway February 5, 1863, and is the son of Edward and Kristina Iverson, both of whom died in the land of the midnight sun. They were the parents of two children, Emma (Mrs. Frederick Torgenson), who lives on

the old home place in Norway, and John B. of this sketch.

John B. Iverson received a common school education in the land of his birth. He was a lad of sixteen years when he came to the United States and located in Luverne. He was a student at St. Olaf college, Northfield, Minnesota, for two years. After spending five years as a Battle Plain township farmer, Mr. Iverson moved to Hardwick, where he has since resided. He engaged in the general mercantile business for thirteen years, and in 1902 built the elegant brick business block which he sold, together with the stock, to W. O. Larson in 1908. He was a pioneer merchant of the village and began business in the building which is now occupied by the postoffice, but which at that time stood on a side street and has since been moved to its present location. In 1896 he was made assistant postmaster, holding that position until the spring of 1897, when he was appointed postmaster by President McKinley, an office he has held continuously since that date. Mr. Iverson has prospered since coming to Rock county, and, besides his city property, owns a valuable farm near Jasper. Landing in a new and strange country with only \$50, he is deserving of the success he has won by honest toil and individual effort.

At Faribault, Minnesota, on March 9, 1885, Mr. Iverson was married to Gertie Oldre, who was born in Norway in August, 1861. She is a sister of K. G. Oldre, of Luverne, and N. G. Oldre, of Kenneth. The following seven children have been born to this union: Anna (Mrs. William Kartrude), of Luverne; Edward, bookkeeper in the Hardwick bank; Albert, a butter-maker of Sioux Falls; Henry, Delpha, Jessie and Howard.

Mr. Iverson was the first president of the Hardwick village council, holding the office four years, and has been clerk of the board of education for the past twelve years. He was the census enumerator for district 172, which comprises Mound and Denver townships and the village of Hardwick, in 1910. He is a member of the Lutheran church.

HANS ROGNLEY (1877), who is one of Martin township's successful farmers, was born in Gudbrandsdalen, Norway, July 24,

1862. He is the son of Paul Sandbo, deceased, and of Rønnog (Oibrakken) Sandbo, who is living.

The land of the midnight sun was Hans Rognley's home for the first fifteen years of his life. He was reared on a farm, received a common school education, and was confirmed by the clergy of the state church. Leaving the land of his birth in 1877, he journeyed alone to America and direct to Rock county, where he joined his father, who had homesteaded in Martin township five years previous and was one of the precinct's first settlers. July 7 of the year mentioned is the date of Hans' advent to Rock county.

His education, begun in Norway, was completed in the district schools, after which he assisted his father with the conduct of the farm. In 1890 Mr. Rognley was married, and for two years thereafter he was absent from the county, making his home during that period in the cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis. On his return to Martin township, he rented and farmed the homestead for three years. He then rented and moved to his present location, the northwest quarter of section 25, which land at first belonged to his father, but later passed into the hands of the son. Since then he has acquired more land on section 26. The property now owned by Mr. Rognley, valued twenty-five years ago at ten dollars an acre, could not be purchased today for less than ten times that sum. His farm is finely improved.

Mr. Rognley's marriage to Maret Paulson took place in Luverne in November, 1890. Mrs. Rognley is a native of the same province in Norway as her husband and was born August 2, 1868. She came to the United States at the age of nineteen. Seven children have been born to this union, namely: Oswald, Peter, Melvin, Amanda, Helen, Nora and Evelyn.

CARL WIESE (1884). The story of a successful career always teems with interest and inspiration, and especially is this the case when the subject of such a reflection has forged his way to the front from the humblest beginnings, solely by unaided individual effort. The life history of Carl Wiese reveals conditions of such a nature.

He came to Rock county twenty-seven years ago, with no capital but ambition and a willingness to labor against overshadowing obstacles, but on such the smiles of fortune are invariably bestowed. Today he is in more ways than one an influential resident and farmer of Mound township, of whose productive soil he is the owner of 720 acres. The island of Fehmarn, in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, is revered by Carl Wiese as the place of his nativity, which occurred November 15, 1861. He is the son of Matt and Annie (Baut) Wiese, the former of whom was killed in an accident in the old country on March 31, 1881. The mother, who came to America to live with her son, died on June 25, 1887.

Carl received what education he could up to the time of his tenth year, when he started to hustle for himself. He came to the United States in the first year of his manhood and resided the first two years in Cedar county, Iowa, where he was employed at farm labor. March 19, 1884, is the date of his arrival in Rock county, and he was the first low German to locate in this part of the country. With a brother he farmed rented land in Springwater township five years, then raised five crops on a farm on section 9, Mound township.

In April, 1889, Mr. Wiese bought the first portion of his extensive holdings, paying \$12 per acre for the quarter section, on section 10. On the place at the time was to be found only an old dilapidated shanty, 14x20 feet in dimension, and a few scattering cottonwood trees. Gradual but certain was the transition to the well ordered farm of today, with its elegant residence, commodious barns, well kept fences and sheltering groves. Mr. Wiese farms all of his land, which is located for the most part on sections 10 and 16, with one eighty on section 15. He has been unusually successful as a stock raiser and his herds average seventy head of cattle, a like number of hogs, 150 sheep and twenty-six horses.

Our subject is a member of the Mound township board of supervisors, and for ten years served efficiently as township assessor. He was also clerk of school district No. 50 for five years. Mr. Wiese is the vice president of the National Bank of Luverne. He also owns stock in the Farmers Elevator company of Hardwick and in the In-

dependent Harvester company of Plano, Illinois. He holds membership in the A. O. U. W., M. W. A. and D. of H. lodges of Luverne, and in the order of Royal Neighbors of Hardwick.

Carl Wiese was married in Rock county on November 15, 1887, to Laura A. Koll, who was born in the same locality as her husband on December 23, 1864, and came to the United States at the age of eighteen years. Three sons and three daughters have been born to this union, as follows: Peter Matthias, born January 6, 1889; Julius Johannes, born July 12, 1890; Emma Wilhelmina, born August 16, 1895; Agnes Louise, born April 25, 1899; Laura Matilda and Carl Herman, twins, born June 3, 1902. The parents of Mrs. Wiese, Peter and Wilhelmina (Hofeld) Koll, in 1905 celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in the homeland, Germany, which Mr. and Mrs. Wiese and four of their children attended. They were absent on the trip ninety-nine days.

MICHAEL BERGIN (1882), for nearly thirty years a resident of Springwater township, is one of that precinct's most prosperous farmers and stock breeders and large land owners. He holds title to 800 acres of finely improved land in the township and as a successful stock raiser has a wide reputation. He makes a specialty of fine Durham and Shorthorn cattle, Jersey Red and Poland China hogs and Belgian draft horses, which he imports from Europe.

The parents of our subject were Michael and Julia (Clohesy) Bergin, who came from Ireland to the United States in 1840 and made settlement in Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin. There Michael Bergin of this sketch, on November 7, 1857, gazed for the first time upon the things of this earth. The father had invested in government land and for his farm had paid \$1.25 per acre. At the age of twenty-five Michael set out for Rock county, where he purchased the homestead right to the northeast quarter of section 12, range 47, Springwater township, his home to this day. As he prospered he came into possession of his other holdings. For eight years he served as a director of his school district. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator company of Sherman,

South Dakota, and in the Independent Harvester company of Plano, Illinois.

In Luverne, on January 10, 1889, Michael Bergin was united in marriage of Lizzie Fitzgerald, the daughter of James and Honora Fitzgerald, both of whom are buried in the old country. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Bergin, as follows: John, born November 5, 1890; James, born August 3, 1891; Julia, born June 5, 1895; Irene and Mary, twins, born March 5, 1900.

WILLIE S. ANDERSON (1871), a merchant of Kenneth, has been a continuous resident of Rock county since the pioneer days of 1871, when as a boy of four years he came with his parents, who settled on a homestead in section 14, Mound township.

W. S. Anderson was born in Norway September 6, 1866, but came to America when in his sixth month. After a residence of three and one-half years in Fayette county, Iowa, in 1871 the family moved to Rock county. Willie attended the district schools and assisted with the work on his father's farm until after his twentieth birthday. Then for a number of years he hired out to different farmers, after which he engaged in farming for himself, renting land in Mound township for two years, and for the same length of time living in Battle Plain township. During the fall of 1901 he moved to Kenneth and established a pool hall, which he conducted for nearly seven years. On disposing of the property, he was variously employed for two years and then set up in his present business, that of dealer in furniture, notions, crockery, confectionery, etc. He is the assessor of Vienna township and has held the office for a number of years.

Mr. Anderson is the son of Sevat and Raudi Anderson. In the family were seven children, of whom five are living, named as follows: A. S. Anderson, of Hardwick; S. S. Anderson, of Hardwick; Ole S. Anderson, of Mound township, who lives on the old homestead; W. S. Anderson of this sketch, and Mrs. K. S. Hoime, of Battle Plain. The deceased children are Mrs. Fred Capron and Mrs. Ole G. Hoime.

Sevat and Raudi Anderson came to this country in 1867 and before coming to Rock county in 1871 lived in Fayette county,

Iowa. Mr. Anderson lived on the old farm he homesteaded until 1892, when he sold the place to his son, O. S. Anderson. He is still hale and hearty at the age of eighty-eight and lives in Battle Plain township.

JACOB N. JACOBSON (1874) is president of the village council of Hills, a leading merchant of that place, and one of the early settlers of Rock county, three points of worthy distinction. Born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, on August 5, 1867, all but the first seven years of his life have been spent in the county of which he is now an honored citizen.

The parents of Jacob N. Jacobson are Niels and Sigrid (Sexe) Jacobson, who came to this country from Norway as children. Niels Jacobson was four years of age when he accompanied his parents in the journey across the Atlantic and located with them near Milwaukee, Wisconsin. That was in 1848. Two years later the family moved to Winneshiek county, Iowa, and in Springfield township of the same, his father, Jacob Abrahamson, was among the first tax payers. Niels Jacobson married Sigrid Sexe in 1865, and in 1874 arrived with his little family in Martin township, Rock county. Up to the year 1907, when the esteemed couple moved to Hills, they made their home on the old homestead on section 20. Both are in the best of health, as is also Mrs. Jacobson's mother, who has attained the advance age of eighty-nine years. There are five children, all living, in the Jacobson family and are Jacob N. of this sketch; Julia (Mrs. O. R. Stetten), of Des Moines, Iowa; Margaret (Mrs. Otto Sather), of Martin township; Theodore, of Martin township; and Helga (Mrs. Hans Nordby), of Hills.

On the old homestead two miles northwest of Hills Jacob N. Jacobson passed his youth. His education in the rural schools was supplemented by a three years' course in Luther college, Decorah, Iowa, and at the Dixon (Illinois) Business college. He taught school in the county for a number of years and in 1888 commenced a business career, in which he has won success and prosperity. He opened a small store at Bruce, the station on the Illinois Central two miles west of Hills, and this he conduct-

ed for two years, at the end of which time the business was moved to Hills. In 1890 the Great Northern built through the county and made a junction with the Illinois Central at Hills, and this is what induced Mr. Jacobson to move to the more strategic point. Twenty-one years ago saw the modest and inauspicious beginning of the present day "Big Store" of Hills, now one of the largest mercantile concerns in this section of the state.

Mr. Jacobson was married October 17, 1894, in Winneshiek county, Iowa, to Sigrid Stevens, a native of that county, in which she was born March 24, 1868. Mrs. Jacobson is the daughter of Staale Thostenson, now deceased. They have no children.

Mr. Jacobson's busy life has prevented him from accepting many of the positions and offices of honor and trust which his fellow townsmen have been anxious to confer upon him. For a number of years he served as clerk of the township and for some time served as a member of the village council. To the presidency of that body he was elected in 1910 and re-elected in 1911. He is vice president of the First National Bank of Hills and a member of the United Norwegian Lutheran church.

P. S. HOIME (1885), a prominent and substantial farmer and large stock raiser of Battle Plain township, has been a Rock county resident since 1885, a period of twenty-six years. He is a native of Norway and was born in Westre Sledre, December 31, 1860. He is the son of Steffen and Mary (Ellestad) Hoime, both deceased. The former died in the old country about 1880, and the mother who later came to this country, died in Martin township in 1892.

The subject of this review was brought up on a farm in his native land and attended the country schools. He lived at home until attaining his majority, then for four years was connected with the Norske Jager corps, a government military school at Christiania. In June, 1885, Mr. Hoime immigrated to the United States and journeyed direct to Rock county, which has ever since been his home. He lived in Martin township five years, the last two of which he was engaged in farming rented land.

From Martin township Mr. Hoime moved

to Battle Plain township, the scene of his subsequent activities. After a three years' experience as a renter, he came into possession of his present farm, the southwest quarter of section 11. That was raw railroad land at the time of purchase. Conditions are altogether different today, for the observer discerns a thoroughly improved farm with a splendid residence and other substantial buildings of most attractive appearance. In addition to the home farm, Mr. Hoime rents and farms another quarter section of land. He is chairman of the township board of supervisors, a capacity in which he has ably served for the past three years, and he has been a member of the board five years. He was a director of school district No. 58 three years.

Our subject was married in Norway in May, 1885, to Martha Olson. To Mr. and Mrs. Hoime the following five children have been born: Tillie (Mrs. Clarence Hagender), of Minneapolis; Ida, Olga, Olaf and Sigurd. The family are members of the Kenneth Norwegian Lutheran church.

TOSTEN T. TOKHEIM (1875), the storekeeper and deputy postmaster at Booge, South Dakota, just over the line from Beaver Creek township, is one of the very early settlers of Rock county, to which he came as a twelve year old boy. He was born in Hardanger, Norway, on June 27, 1863. His parents were Tosten A. Tokheim, who died in 1887, and Anna (Jelle) Tokheim, who died in 1906, venerable pioneers and homesteaders of Beaver Creek township.

Tosten T. Tokheim of this review was approaching his tenth birthday when, in 1872, he crossed the broad Atlantic with his parents to make settlement in the new world. The family resided in Winneshiek county, Iowa, until the spring of 1875, when they drove through to Rock county. The father filed a homestead claim to the northeast quarter of section 14, range 47, Beaver Creek township, and on that land our subject was destined to reside thirty-three years. He was married at the age of twenty, and shortly after bought the old homestead, which he farmed continuously until 1908. Then he bought the store of S. L. Todd, in Booge, and commenced a mercan-

tile career, which he now follows. Mr. Tokheim also buys stock. He served for several years as a director of school district No. 22.

In Luverne, on August 11, 1883, Tosten T. Tokheim was wedded to Ingebor Westun, the daughter of Tosten and Ingebor Westun, both deceased. She was born in the same locality as her husband, in Hardanger, Norway, October 8, 1865, and came to the United States at the age of eighteen years. Five daughters and three sons have been born to this union. They are Anna, Tieda (Mrs. Aanen Aanenson), of Beaver Creek township; Alfred, Ida, Martin, George, Elsie and Thelma. With the exception of Mrs. Aanenson, all the children reside at home. The family belong to the United Lutheran church of Beaver Creek township.

GEORGE SOUTAR (1876), a well known contractor and builder of Luverne, is a pioneer resident of that progressive city and a man who has been directly responsible for much of its up-building. It was in the spring of 1876 that our subject made his advent into the town of his future residence. That was before the railroad had been built through and he accomplished the journey from Worthington to Luverne, part of the way on foot. What little there was of Luverne at that time was for the most part located to the east of the present Weick feed barn.

The day following his arrival in the town Mr. Soutar took the contract for the erection of a residence near the Omaha depot. In the course of a year he formed a partnership with Joseph H. Jones, and the firm of Soutar & Jones, employing a large force of workmen, carried on a large contracting and building business, their operations extending throughout all parts of the county. Among the substantial results of their labors in Luverne are the First National Bank and Rock County Bank blocks and the large brick residence of Judge P. E. Brown, which was built for P. J. Kniss. In 1882 the firm dissolved partnership, Mr. Soutar continuing the business alone for many years with marked success. Among the business blocks which have been erected by our subject are the S. Kennedy block, the Tom Jones store building, the P. Rober building, and the

building occupied by the Handy Grocery, which Mr. Soutar later bought and still owns. In 1879 Mr. Soutar erected the first bank buildings in Flandreau and Pipestone. The railroads had not yet been built to those towns, and all the material was hauled from Luverne. For the past fifteen years he has devoted himself for the most part to the management of his own private interests.

George Soutar of this biography was born in Scotland on the sixth day of August, 1851, the son of Charles and Jessie Soutar, both of whom are buried in the land of the Scots. Besides our subject, there are four other living children who were born to these parents. They are David Soutar, of Cupar Fife, Scotland; Elizabeth Mackay, of Dundee, Scotland; Ann Russell, of Burnt Island, Scotland; and Andrew Soutar, of Seattle. Robert Russell, the son of the sister residing in Burnt Island, came to the United States in June, 1910, and is now a resident of Luverne.

After completing his education in the common schools of his native land, George was apprenticed to a carpenter, James Cameron by name, under whom he mastered the trade. In 1873, in the first year of his majority, Mr. Soutar departed from the scenes of his youth and crossed the Atlantic to make his future home in the domain of Uncle Sam. He first located in the city of St. Paul, and while there he joined a party of 150 who were sent to North Dakota to assist in the construction of Fort Lincoln, a government military post nine miles southwest of the capital city, Bismarck. Mr. Soutar next went to Sibley, Iowa, where he was located for a year prior to his settlement in Luverne. He is a large Rock county land owner, having real estate interests in Rose Dell, Magnolia and Beaver Creek townships. He owns two farms in Rose Dell, located near the village of Jasper.

The marriage of George Soutar to Emily Barrow occurred at Portage, Wisconsin, on August 28, 1883. Mrs. Soutar is a native of England and was born on August 28, 1860. Two daughters, Emily, a school teacher, and Grace, and one son, Paul, have been born to these parents. During the year 1881 Mr. Soutar returned to his old home in Scotland for an extended visit, and on his return to this country he was accompanied by a cousin, Frank Soutar, and

James Cameron and his family, under whom our subject became proficient in his chosen calling. Mr. Cameron located in St. Paul, where he died several years ago, and since then his widow has resided with the family of Frank Soutar.

EDWARD ERSTAD (1882), who owns and farms the northwest quarter of section 11, range 47, Springwater township, was born in Oxendahl, Norway, the tenth day of June, 1862. His father, Erick Erstad, who was a small farmer and blacksmith, has been dead since 1906. The mother of our subject, Gjertrud Erstad, still lives in the land of the midnight sun and is in her seventy-seventh year.

Up to his twentieth year the life of Edward Erstad was passed in the land of his birth. He received a common school education. In 1882 he severed home ties and set out to seek his fortune in the new world beyond the seas. On arriving in America, he came direct to Rock county and to Beaver Creek township. For the first five years he was employed at labor on farm and railroad, then set up in farming for himself in Beaver Creek township. Since 1900 he has resided on and farmed his land above described, of which he had become possessed thirteen years previous. He has a finely improved farm. Mr. Erstad is a director of school district No. 32 and with his family belongs to the Synod Norwegian Lutheran church.

Edward Erstad was married in Beaver Creek township October 26, 1893, to Lena Vixen, who was born February 27, 1870. Mrs. Erstad is the daughter of Lars and Maret (Jordal) Vixen, both natives of Norway. The father died in Norway in 1893. Her mother came to America in 1909 and resides in Sherman, South Dakota. There are six children in the Erstad family, as follows: Gusta D., born June 30, 1894; Lella M., born April 8, 1899; Olga E., born August 10, 1902; Elmer W., born March 14, 1904; Mabel B., born November 3, 1906; and Earnest W., born January 26, 1908.

FRANK SHURR (1877), a well known Battle Plain township farmer and stock raiser, is a native of Rock county. He is the

son of pioneer settlers, John B. and Harriet (Cackett) Shurr, the former a native of Germany, and the latter of New York. They came to Rock county in 1869 and took as a homestead claim the southwest quarter of section 34, Kanaranzi township.

On the Kanaranzi township homestead Frank Shurr was born April 5, 1877. His education in the district schools was supplemented by a six months' course at the Man-kato Commercial college. He assisted with the work on the home farm until attaining his majority; then, after hiring out to other farmers for two years, he commenced farming for himself on rented land in Lyon county, Iowa. He went from there to Bottineau county, North Dakota, where he proved up on a quarter section homestead. On disposing of that land, he returned to the county of his birth and joined the ranks of prosperous farmers. In 1909, he bought the northeast quarter of section 19, which he now cultivates. Mr. Shurr raises a large number of Chester White hogs. He served for four years on the township board.

The event of the marriage of Frank Shurr to Bertha Ganfield occurred at Luverne February 18, 1903. Bertha Ganfield is the daughter of George W. and Taletha (Mason) Ganfield and was born April 13, 1877. These parents have two children: Percy L., who was born November 4, 1904, and Olive F., born August 30, 1906. Mr. and Mrs. Shurr are members of the Edgerton Congregational church.

C. W. FINKE (1886), Clinton township farmer, is a native of Dane county, Wisconsin, where he was born April 23, 1867. He was reared on a farm eighteen miles west of Madison and secured his education in the district school near by. Up to his fifteenth birthday our subject lived on the home farm, then became the molder of his own fortune. For the next four years he hired out to several different Dane county farmers.

April, 1886, is the date of Mr. Finke's arrival to Rock county. For the first year he worked on the farm of his brother, Fred Finke, in Martin township. He then bought his present farm, the southeast quarter of section 7, Clinton township. From a raw piece of prairie land, for which Mr. Finke

gave \$10 per acre, the property has developed to be one of the finely improved farms of the precinct. He raises considerable stock. In local affairs Mr. Finke has always been prominent. At present he is serving his second term as town supervisor. For one year he held the office of clerk and for a period of nine years served in the same capacity for school district No. 61.

The marriage of Mr. Finke to Mary H. Nuffer took place in Martin township May 9, 1895. Mrs. Finke was born near Inwood, Lyon county, Iowa, on December 28, 1872. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Finke, namely: Roy E., born February 24, 1896; Herbert G., born January 9, 1899; Alvin M., born March 25, 1902; Frances P., born January 28, 1905; Walter C., born April 19, 1908.

WILLIAM N. DAVIDSON (1878), attorney at law of Luverne, is an early day settler of Rock county and a man who has taken an important part in the affairs of his county and village. He was born in Sardinia, Erie county, New York, November 7, 1833, the youngest of a family of seven children, all of whom except himself are dead. His father was Nathaniel N. Davidson, a native of Troy, New York. His mother was Amira (Edwards) Davidson, who was born at Northampton, Massachusetts.

Our subject was taken when a baby from his native county to Cleveland, Ohio, and from that time until the year 1851 lived in ten different counties in Ohio, his father being an itinerant millwright, working at his trade in different places. During this period of his life young Davidson secured his education, after which he engaged in the millwright business with his father and brothers. In 1851 he moved to Iowa, worked at his trade awhile, and then began the study of law. He was admitted to the bar September 15, 1856, in Clinton county, Iowa, and has been practising his profession ever since—a continuous period of fifty-five years.

Mr. Davidson practiced law in Hampton, Iowa, seventeen years, in Ackley, Iowa, two years, lived in Bloomington, Illinois, one year, in Denver, Colorado, one year, and since 1878 in Luverne. Mr. Davidson has been in official life many years. In Franklin coun-

ty, Iowa, he served as county judge and as prosecuting attorney. In Rock county he has been county attorney and judge of the probate court, was city attorney for Luverne nine years, and for the past thirty years has been county surveyor. He is a literary man and a poet of considerable local note, many of his writings having been published in public journals. Mr. Davidson is a Mason, holding membership in the Blue Lodge and Chapter.

At Ackley, Iowa, on August 13, 1875, Mr. Davidson was united in marriage to Thais DeLaurier, a native of Beekmantown, New York. Mr. Davidson has three daughters: Vivian (Mrs. Fred Dewey), of St. Cloud, Minnesota; Zillah M., of Minneapolis; Wildavine, who resides at home.

AUGUST LOOSE (1872), deceased. One of the honored and beloved of Rock county's pioneers was "Father" August Loose, as he was familiarly known, who died on June 2, 1904, after rounding out a well-spent life of ninety-three years. For many years his was the distinction of being the oldest citizen of the county in point of age. He settled in Rock county in the days of its initial settlement and experienced the bitterness of the struggle against the many adversities white Fate chose to settle upon the sturdy shoulders of the determined and unconquerable makers of the county—a county that in time was to be favored with prosperity to an unusual degree. In the events of the transition from the primitive wilderness to Minnesota's garden spot our subject was an interested and active participant.

The city of Reetz, Prussia, is the birthplace and May 17, 1811, was the date of the nativity of August Loose. In 1840 he was joined in the bonds of matrimony to Johanna Roemer, and to this union were born eight children, only one of whom now survives, Frank Loose, of Beaver Creek. Mrs. Loose died in 1886.

It was in the year 1867 that the Loose family departed from the fatherland and cast their fortunes in the domain of Uncle Sam. August Loose farmed for four years in Blackhawk county, Iowa, which he left in 1872 to join the procession westward to the newly opened country of southwestern Minnesota. He filed a homestead claim

to the southeast quarter of section 30, Luverne township, during the first year of his residence in Rock county. He devoted his energies for a good many years to active agricultural pursuits, and then finally sold the homestead to his son Frank, with whom he lived a retired life until called by death.

ALFRED P. ENGELSON (1878) is the son of those early day settlers of Springwater township, Paul and Bertha (Erickson) Engelson, natives of Sweden and Norway, respectively. On coming to America they established the family shrine in Winneshiek county, Iowa.

In the town of Calmar, Winneshiek county, on the twenty-first day of July, 1865, occurred the birth of Alfred P. Engelson of this review. He was a boy of thirteen when he accompanied his parents to Rock county. The father bought a relinquishment to the southeast quarter of section 30, Springwater township, on which place our subject grew to manhood. At the age of twenty-three, in 1888, he commenced farming for himself on rented land. In 1900 he bought the northwest quarter of section 30 and lived there until the spring of 1910, when he rented the northeast quarter of section 24, range 47, and has since made his home thereon. He farms 265 acres of productive land. Mr. Engelson is a stockholder in the Farmers Telephone company. He was for fifteen years a school director and is now serving a term on the township board. He belongs to the M. W. A. and R. N. A. lodges.

In Luverne, on October 27, 1887, Alfred P. Engelson and Mary Ellen Murray were joined in the holy bonds of matrimony. Mrs. Engelson, who is a daughter of William and Lizzie (Craig) Murray, was born October 1, 1870. The following four children have blessed this union: George W., born February 22, 1892; Roy C., born October 15, 1894; Alfred, born June 12, 1897; and Florence L., born February 23, 1899.

WILLIAM T. DEAN (1873) is one of Rock county's oldest residents, having come with the pioneers of 1873. For the past eleven years he has been the well known and popular village blacksmith of Magnolia.

William is the eldest son in a family of



AUGUST LOOSE (1811-1904)

Who Was a Pioneer of Rock County and Lived to the
Age of Ninety-three Years.

ten children whose parents were William C. and Martha (Buckingham) Dean, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of England. Martha Dean died on the old homestead in 1880. William C. Dean, born November 8, 1840, moved to Indiana ten years later and from there to Wisconsin, where he enlisted in company C, of the Thirty-First Wisconsin infantry. He was a corporal and served three years in the civil war. After his discharge he went to Butler county, Iowa, in 1865. In 1872 he homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 24, Magnolia township, on to which he moved the year following, and where he resided until 1888, for a year thereafter farming on section 13, Vienna township. Then, consecutively, he was a resident of the towns of Worthington, Luverne, Garden City and Chatfield, Minnesota, and Norfolk, Nebraska, where his death occurred August 22, 1901. Mr. Dean was married a second time to Margaret Sutherland.

William T. Dean was born in Butler county, Iowa, July 7, 1866, and was seven years of age when he accompanied his parents to Rock county and settled with them on the homestead in Magnolia township. For two years after coming of age his summers were spent assisting his father on the farm, and during the remainder of the year he operated a feed mill in Magnolia. For one year thereafter he farmed the northwest quarter of section 24, Vienna township, which he had bought. About this time he also became the owner of a threshing rig and for a number of years operated it during the harvest seasons in various parts of Rock county. He secured employment in Minneapolis with the Minneapolis Threshing Machine company and worked as a mechanic in that manufactory, in all but the harvest seasons of the year, until the spring of 1894. That spring he again became a farmer on his own land, and continued so until 1898, when he sold out and moved to Magnolia. He built a residence in the village and also the shop which has since housed his blacksmith business. He conducts a general repair, machine and horse shoeing shop and also builds and repairs automobiles.

An experience that Mr. Dean is not likely to forget occurred on June 12, 1896, when he was living on his Vienna township farm.

That is the date when a violent cloud burst wrought so much havoc in that section of the county. In a brief time Mr. Dean's entire farm was inundated and most of the stock swept off the place. The waters surrounded his house, and fearing for the safety of his family he set about converting a mortar box into a serviceable boat, with the intention of ferrying them to a less dangerous position. The flood began to recede, however, and it was not necessary to use such stringent measures for safety. Mr. Dean then set out to reach a near by neighbor, wading in water up to his waist most of the distance. He secured a team and wagon, in which he intended to move his family if necessity occasioned. On the return journey to his home the man and his team were caught in a small sized cyclone, which literally carried the outfit and its occupant for a distance of forty rods in as many seconds.

Mr. Dean was married at Magnolia on March 20, 1893, to Martha Wassmund, who was born in Germany October 17, 1878. They are the parents of the following nine children: Harry, Florence, Elsie, Jimmie, Mabel, Hazel, Ethel, Iva and a baby boy. Mr. Dean holds membership in the M. W. A. lodge.

LEWIS O. LARSON (1889) is a substantial Springwater township farmer and owns the northeast quarter of section 23, range 47. His parents are Ole and Torgbjor (Tvedt) Larson, the former of whom was at one time a merchant in the city of Odda, Hardanger, Norway, at which place our subject was born February 6, 1866.

In 1881, when Lewis was in his fifteenth year, the family came to the United States, the father the same year buying land in Minnehaha county, South Dakota. The family resided there eight years and then settled in Rock county. Ole Larson bought the north half of section 23, range 47, Springwater township. In 1898 his son Lewis purchased the northeast quarter of the section, land he has continued to farm up to the present date. His is one of the well improved farms of the precinct. Mr. Larson is a director of school district No. 52 and is a member of the township board.

On November 11, 1898, in Springwater

township, Lewis O. Larson was married to Guro Jordahl. She was born in Norway September 22, 1870, and is the daughter of Helge and Torbjor (Heldal) Jordahl, both of whom are buried in the old country. Mr. and Mrs. Larson are the parents of the following children: Helge, born August 2, 1899; Elmer A., born July 27, 1900; Arne T., born March 4, 1903; Edwin J., born September 27, 1905; and Tea M., born June 7, 1907. The family are members of the United Norwegian Lutheran church.

Ole and Torbjor (Tvedt) Larson were the parents of five sons and two daughters, who, besides Lewis O. of this review, are: Arne, Belle, Ole, Knudt, Gunder and Gurtu, the last two named being twins. Gunder, the youngest son, who assists his father in the management of the home farm, came to this country from Norway when a child two years of age. He located with his parents in Minnehaha county, South Dakota, where he received his schooling. He has lived on the Rock county farm since the family removed from South Dakota.

WILLIAM THOMPSON (1885) is the pioneer merchant of Hills, and to him is given the credit of erecting the first business building in the town—the one in which his hardware business has been housed since its establishment in 1890. The building in question is the work of Mr. Thompson's own hands.

William Thompson is a native of Iowa county, Iowa, where his earthly career began on January 20, 1865. In infancy he removed with his parents to Benton county, the same state. William was left fatherless at the age of four years, and until his twentieth year he remained on the home farm, assisting in its management and in the care of his widowed mother. His residence in Rock county dates from 1885. For several months he operated a cream route in Martin township, was a carpenter in Beaver Creek awhile, then married and settled in Martin township, where he farmed until the spring of 1890. Then it was he moved to Hills, erected the first business building in the town, and with O. E. McClarey engaged in the hardware business. Six months later

Mr. McClarey retired from the firm and in January, 1893, F. H. Fritz was admitted to partnership by Mr. Thompson. This union continued until the spring of 1900, since which time Mr. Thompson has conducted the business alone. He is also the proprietor of the Hills telephone exchange, which was established in 1903 and is conducted from the store building. Mr. Thompson was the township treasurer in 1898 and is now serving as a member of the village council. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. and M. W. A. lodges.

William is the second son of William and Sophia Thompson, both natives of Norway, who came to America in the fifties and located in Ottawa, Illinois, where they were married. They lived in Iowa county, Iowa, for many years. During the civil war Mr. Thompson, Sr., enlisted in the Eighth Iowa regiment and served with distinction for three years. At the battle of Shiloh he was taken prisoner and was lodged in the famous Libby prison at Richmond and later was transferred to Andersonville, the frightful dungeon hole of the confederacy. The confinement of six months under the most revolting conditions proved disastrous to the health of Mr. Thompson, as it did to hundreds of other union heroes. On returning to his Iowa home and while yet a sick man he joined the home guards, a band organized for protection against the roving bands of savage redskins on mischief bent. Due to the excessive strain on his vitality, from which there was no recuperation, Mr. Thompson died in 1869. His wife is still living at Norway, Iowa. Besides William of this sketch there are only two other members of the family of children living: Mrs. Henry Tuttle, who resides on the home farm in Iowa, and Mrs. J. O. Johnson, of Eagle Grove, Iowa.

William Thompson was married in Rock county on January 10, 1886, to Dora Colby, a native of Clear Lake, Iowa. They are the parents of four living children: Walter, Lottie (Mrs. A. H. Moen), of Inwood, Iowa; Elsie and Pearl.

JOSEPH WILLERS (1889). Well up on the list of practical and successful agriculturists of Rock county must be placed the gentleman whose name heads this re-

view. His slogan might be said to be: "Better farming through more improved and scientific methods." Not once in his twenty-one years residence in the county has Mr. Willers experienced a crop failure, and each succeeding year has brought with it attendant prosperity. The Green Russian variety of oats, now so universally found in Rock county, was first introduced in 1895 by Mr. Willers.

A complete reckoning of the land holdings of Mr. Willers discloses a total of 2622 acres. Of this, 780 acres are of the finest quality of Rock county soil, partly in Beaver Creek and the remainder comprising the home place in Luverne township; a half section near Butterfield, in Watonwan county, Minnesota; and a vast tract of 1522 acres of valuable land in the Las Vegas country, New Mexico.

This man of successful career and rich in the possession of worldly goods is a native of Germany and was born at Algermissen, in the province of Hanover, February 13, 1858. He is the son of Francis and Nettie (Schrader) Willers, both of whom lived and died in the land of the kaiser. The father passed away in October, 1902, at the age of eighty-three years, and his good wife followed four years later, while in her seventy-fourth year. Germany was the home of Joseph Willers for the first twenty-six years of his life. After completing the course of the graded schools, he was for one term a student at the famous agricultural college at Hildesheim, the largest institution of its kind in the world. At the age of twenty, on November 9, 1878, he enlisted in the second regiment of the Imperial Guards of Berlin, and served with distinction until the term of his enlistment expired, on September 21, 1881.

Returning to his home after his career in the army, our subject remained there until March 2, 1884, when he set sail for the new world, arriving at New York twenty days later. From the metropolis he journeyed to Mendota, Illinois, and for two years farmed land in the vicinity of that place, in Bureau county. Then in company with a brother he worked on a farm in Texas for a year. The next few years were filled with varied interests. He was employed in Scotland county, Missouri, for two months, and next we find him

in St. Paul. From that city he worked out with a surfacing and steam shovel crew on the Great Northern railroad until harvest time, when he joined the reapers in Cass county, North Dakota. He left that locality on October 20, 1887, and rejoined the surfacing crew at Alexandria, Minnesota, but remained only three weeks.

The winter of 1887-88 was passed by Mr. Willers in the timber country near Rhineland, Wisconsin. Early in the spring he was in St. Paul again and was offered the management, by George P. Jacobs, of Merriam Park, of that gentleman's large farm in Grant county, Minnesota, known as the Jacobs Spur. Under the cultivation of our subject, the farm netted for the season of 1889, twenty-six cars of wheat and three of barley.

Resigning his responsible position in November, 1889, Mr. Willers came to Rock county, the scene of his subsequent fruitful activities. He bought the northeast quarter of section 33, Beaver Creek township, which he farmed thirteen years, during which time he was continually adding to his landed possessions. In 1901 he became owner of his present farm on sections 1 and 2, Luverne township, upon which he moved two years later and where he still continues to reside! All the substantial and up-to-date improvements now found on the well ordered farm are entirely the product of Mr. Willers' labors. With its fine residence and roomy barns Mr. Willers' place is one of the attractive and model farms of the precinct. He is a stock raiser of wide repute and makes a specialty of Shorthorn cattle.

At St. Cloud, Minnesota, on January 22, 1889, Joseph Willers was married to Theresa Beck, who was born at Cold Springs, Minnesota, March 16, 1868. She is the daughter of Andrew and Kathrine (Pauley) Beck, both deceased. The following named children have been born to this union: Joseph, born December 1, 1889; Alex, born December 6, 1891; Nettie, born May 16, 1894; Francis, born November 17, 1896; Willie, born February 27, 1899; Bernard, born November 12, 1901; Lawrence, born February 17, 1904.

Mr. Willers has always taken an active interest in matters of public interest. He served as pathmaster during most of his

residence in Beaver Creek township and was the chairman of the board of supervisors of that precinct from 1902 to the time of his removal, and has served in a similar capacity in Luverne township since 1905. In 1898 Mr. Willers received the democratic nomination for state senator, but was defeated on election day. He owns stock in the Farmers Elevator companies of both Luverne and Beaver Creek.

NELS P. JENSEN (1873), retired Kanaranzi township farmer and now a resident of Luverne, is a native of Denmark, his birth occurring in that country on April 2, 1839. His parents, Nels and Mattie Johnsen, were farmers. Our subject's early life was spent on the home farm and he received his education at the common school in the near vicinity. For two and one-half years he served in the Danish army.

In 1873, at the age of thirty-four years, Mr. Jensen came to America and journeyed direct to Rock county. He homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 8, Kanaranzi township. There were misfortunes galore at the start. It was during the days of the grasshopper scourge and for several years the fruitage from the new farm was very small. But better days came, and Mr. Jensen was allotted his share of the prosperity which followed. On five different occasions he invested in Kanaranzi township land until he became the owner of a section and a half. Feeling the burden of years press heavy, in 1909, disposing of all but 480 acres of his holdings, which he rents out, he retired from active labor and moved to Luverne to enjoy the rewards which are due the faithful.

Mr. Jensen was married in Denmark on July 6, 1867, to Lena Jensen. One of their three children, Mattie Maria, born December 7, 1877, died on February 14, 1904. Jens P., born April 16, 1872, and Andrew, born January 26, 1880, are still living. While a resident of Kanaranzi township, Mr. Jensen served two years as supervisor, and for twelve years he was treasurer of school district No. 24. He and his family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

CHARLIE G. MATTHIESEN (1892), of Denver township, is one of Rock county's prominent and most successful agriculturists and stock raisers. He owns and farms the north half of section 34. When he came into possession of the place twenty years ago in no wise did it resemble the thoroughly improved and model appearance which it presents today. Then the only building to be found on the place was an old dilapidated dwelling house, much the worse for wear. Years of persevering labor have replaced this original improvement with an elegant, modern two-story residence, 32x34 feet, which was erected in 1907 and constructed of cement blocks. Over 6000 trees set out in the earlier days have developed into an attractive grove and a yielding orchard.

Charlie was born in Germany November 23, 1859, the son of Johan F. and Annie (Cady) Matthiesen, and is one of a family of seven children, all of whom are living. Besides our subject they are Fred, John, Peter, Hans, Willie and Annie. The parents came to the United States in 1868 and settled in Tama county, Iowa, where Johan Matthiesen died in 1875. His wife is still living on the old Tama county farm at the age of seventy-nine years.

Our subject was a lad of eight when he accompanied his parents to their home in the new world. He attended the Tama county schools and lived on the home farm until attaining his majority; then he commenced farming on his own account in the same county. In 1892 he moved to Rock county and to his present farm, which he had bought the year previous. He is an extensive breeder and shipper of high grade stock. Mr. Matthiesen has always taken an active interest in the conduct of the civic and educational affairs of his community. For the past twelve years he has served as the treasurer of Denver township and has been the treasurer of school district No. 71 since 1900. He holds stock in the Hardwick Farmers Elevator company and also in the Independent Harvester company of Plano, Illinois. He is affiliated with the M. W. A. and I. O. O. F. lodges and belongs to the German Lutheran church.

Mr. Matthiesen was married in Tama county, Iowa, November 9, 1887, to Doris

Petersen, the daughter of Jurgen and Christina Petersen.* She was born in Germany March 18, 1866, and came to this country at the age of fifteen years. Mr. and Mrs. Matthiesen are the parents of eight children, namely, John, George, Frank, Carl, Eddie, Herbert, Clara and Bertha.

R. B. HINKLY (1882), who has for nearly thirty years been a well known Rock county resident, is a Luverne citizen of many extensive interests. He first came to Luverne in March, 1882, and organized the Rock County Bank, which commenced business May 2 of that year, and of which he became the first cashier and active manager. He was later elevated to the presidency, an office he held until retiring from all interest in the bank in 1909. His time has since been devoted to the supervision of the important and large industry he created a number of years ago in his home city, the Luverne Brick & Tile company, and his extensive farm and real estate possessions.

A native Iowan, Mr Hinkly's birth occurred in 1860 at the town of Claremont, Fayette county. He was educated in the public schools of that place and later attended Oberlin college, Ohio. At the age of eighteen he assumed the editorship of the Claremont Independent and at the same time read law. He was admitted to the bar the year of attaining his majority. He departed from Iowa and for a year previous to settling in Luverne he was engaged with the Northern Pacific railroad at Brainerd, Minnesota. During his long and successful career as a banker he assisted in the organization of a number of financial institutions in Minnesota and South Dakota, but now has disposed of all such interests except a connection with the leading bank of Howard, South Dakota. Mr. Hinkly owns several thousand acres of Rock county's choicest land and has made heavy real estate investments in the Gulf Coast country in Texas, near San Benito.

In Claremont, Iowa, on September 26, 1882, R. B. Hinkly was united in marriage to May Harrington, a native of Boston. Three sons and one daughter have been born to these parents. They are William,

the organizer and cashier of a bank at San Benito, Texas; Harry J., who assists in the management of his father's real estate; Bryant Stanton, superintendent of the Luverne factory; and Laura (Mrs. John Connell), of Luverne.

AMUND H. HERREID (1873) is one of the old-timers of Martin township and can point to a record of nearly forty years uninterrupted residence in Rock county. The son of Hover and Breta (Quammen) Herreid, both of whom are buried in the old country, his earthly career commenced in Hardanger, Bergen, Norway, October 11, 1845.

He was reared on his father's farm, received a common school education, and in the first year of his manhood came alone to America. For the first five years he was employed at farm labor in Dane county, Wisconsin; then for two years he followed a similar occupation near Decorah, Iowa. In 1873 Rock county beckoned Mr. Herreid. He heeded the call and cast his lot with many other sturdy Norwegian pioneers who arrived in those early days. Our subject homesteaded the southeast quarter of section 17, which has developed from a barren waste to a land of fruitful acreage. He is the owner of 240 acres of thoroughly improved farm land, having bought an eighty in section 16, which has been added to the original claim. For many years Mr. Herreid served as a school director in his district. He and his family belong to the Norwegian Lutheran church.

At Beaver Creek, on April 13, 1877, Mr. Herreid took to wife Engeborg Danielson, who came to this country from Norway in 1871. To these parents the following children have been born: Haaver A., born February 7, 1878, died July 7, 1908; Daniel A., born July 28, 1879; Bertinus, born April 14, 1881; Gurine B., born April 13, 1883; Randolph T., born October 5, 1885; Anton I., born October 6, 1888, died October 16, 1890; Emelia H., born August 30, 1890; Antonette J., born October 16, 1892; Oskar H., born December 19, 1894; Idvardina J., born December 2, 1898.

JOHN ENGBRETSON (1880), cashier of the Kenneth State Bank, is Rock county born and bred. He is the son of Hans and Gina (Halverson) Engbretson, natives of Norway, who settled in this country some forty years ago. For the first year after their arrival they lived near Madison, Wisconsin; then after a residence of the same duration in Iowa, in 1872 they joined the ranks of Rock county's pioneers, Mr. Engbretson taking as a homestead claim a quarter in section 4, Vienna township. Here the venerable couple lived until the spring of 1910, when they moved to the city of Luverne, there to enjoy in old age the rewards of successful and faithful labor. There are four living children in the Engbretson family, Emma (Mrs. Ole T. Olson), of Luverne, Tilda, John and Betsey (Mrs. B. J. Farness), of Kimball, South Dakota. One son, Carl, is dead.

On the old homestead in Vienna township John was born June 1, 1880, and there grew to manhood. His education in the district schools was supplemented by a business course at the Breck school, Wilder, and by a teacher's course in the Southern Minnesota normal school, located at Austin. After his school days he taught for four years in district No. 27. In 1906 he moved to Kenneth to assume his duties as manager of the Farmers Elevator company's interests.

On January 7, 1911, Mr. Engbretson was made cashier and a director of the Kenneth State Bank, taking the position formerly held by A. D. Parker. The other officers and directors remain the same as before except that John Wunderle becomes a director in place of Mr. Parker.

Mr. Engbretson is unmarried. He is a member of the M. W. A. lodge of Luverne and of the Norwegian Lutheran church. For the past nine years John has efficiently served as the township clerk.

ANDREW SANDERSON (1872), of Steen, is a native of Emmett county, Iowa, and was born on the twenty-fifth of May, 1871. He is the son of those well-known pioneers of Clinton township, Sven and Aase Sanderson, who were born in Norway. Sven Sanderson died in Rock county in 1877,

but the mother is still living and resides in Canada.

While yet in his first year Andrew accompanied his parents to the then new Rock county. That was in June, 1872. The father took as a homestead the north-west quarter of section 22, Clinton township, where he lived to the time of his death. The family endured many hardships during the bitter pioneer days.

Our subject was educated in the rural schools and lived on the home farm until 1888. That year he moved to the vicinity of the new town of Steen and for several years thereafter worked as a farm hand and on the railroad. In 1892 he rented land on section 17, Clinton township, and for the next eight years was engaged in farming for himself. In 1900 he commenced his residence in Steen, which has been continuous since that date. For ten or twelve years prior to that he had been engaged in the threshing business and since retiring from the farm he has devoted a great deal more of his time to that business. He also works at various other occupations. He is now serving his fifth year as a road overseer. Mr. Sanderson holds membership in the M. W. A. lodge of Steen.

At Luverne, on February 4, 1897, Mr. Sanderson was joined in wedlock to Clara Steen, the daughter of Ole P. Steen and a native of Clinton township. The following children have been born to this union: Selmer Olaf, born July 16, 1898; George Louis, born August 31, 1900; Josie Sophia, born March 25, 1901; Rose Alma, born December 7, 1903; and Lloyd Williams, born June 18, 1909.

KNUDT G. OLDRE (1882), of Luverne, has been one of the enterprising citizens of Rock county for nearly thirty years, and to its present-day prosperity he has contributed an ample portion of effective energy. He is the president of the prosperous Rose Dell Mutual Fire Insurance company, and in addition conducts a real estate and loan business in the county seat and manages his extensive farming interests. The Rose Dell Insurance company, one of the strongest institutions of its character in the state, was founded in 1884

by one of the county's substantial pioneers, K. K. Steen, and in the following year it was incorporated. An idea of its wonderful growth can be realized from the fact that the company now has insurance in force to the amount of a million and a half dollars. The present officers are: President, K. G. Oldre; vice president, M. K. Steen; secretary, T. M. Jacobson; treasurer, E. T. Thorson. The officers with the following constitute the board of directors: Otto K. Steen, J. P. Ingleston, Nels Iverson, A. Jenson and James McKeon.

The subject of this review is a native Norwegian and was born September 12, 1854. At the age of sixteen years Mr. Oldre departed from the land of the midnight sun to make his future home in the domain of Uncle Sam. He arrived in New York in June, 1870, and from there went direct to Goodhue county, Minnesota, where he secured a common school education and resided with an uncle until joining forces with progress in Rock county in 1882. In that year he took as a homestead the southwest quarter of section 24, Battle Plain township, which by untiring industry he evolved from a stretch of treeless prairie to one of the ideal farm homes of the precinct and county. Our subject still owns the old farm and has added to the original holdings until now he is the possessor of 400 acres of Battle Plain's choicest soil.

K. G. Oldre has been a citizen of Luverne since 1902. He was the census enumerator of that city when the federal count in 1910 was made. In political affairs and in movements for the promotion of every worthy civic enterprise Mr. Oldre has always been a prominent figure. During his long residence in Battle Plain he was honored on repeated occasions with election to high offices of trust. He filled with great credit the offices of township supervisor four years, town clerk fourteen years, justice of the peace fourteen years and clerk of his school district fourteen years. Mr. Oldre represented the first district for a term of four years on the board of county commissioners. In 1906 he was defeated for the republican nomination as candidate for the state legislature from the district comprising Rock and Pipestone coun-

ties by only seventy votes. He received the appointment of committee clerk in the Minnesota legislature for the session of 1911. Fraternally he is a Knight of Pythias.

The parents of our subject, Guttorm and Dorthie Oldre, lived and died in their native land of Norway. Five other children of this union are living. They are Nels Oldre, of Rock county; Gertrude (Mrs. J. B. Iverson), of Hardwick; Inga Remme, of Goodhue county; Dorthy Remme, of Rock county; and Ole Oldre, of Norway.

Knudt G. Oldre has been twice married. On New Years day, 1877, he took to wife Anna Oyle, who was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, and died in Rock county. Three sons, Gustav, Martin and Gilbert, were born to this union. The last named died at the age of sixteen years. Our subject was married in Rock county November 3, 1886, to Bertha Engebretson, a native of Norway who came to this country when twelve years of age.

HALVOR HALVORSON (1874) is reckoned among the oldest residents of Martin township, having come to the precinct when a lad of five years, and since then it has been his home. He is now one of its substantial farmers and owns 181 acres of its fertile soil. He has devoted much of his time during the many years in promoting the interests and welfare of the community. For five years he served as a member of the board of township supervisors and for the last three years has been the chairman of that board. For a time he was one of the directors in school district No. 37, and for four years was its clerk.

Mr. Halvorson is a native of Walworth county, Wisconsin, the date of his birth being September 17, 1869. He is the son of Peter H. and Martha (Tveten) Halvorson, who are now residents of Hills. Halvor accompanied his parents to Rock county in 1874. The father homesteaded the southwest quarter of section 13, range 47, Martin township, and it was on that farm that our subject grew to manhood. His education in the district schools was supplemented by a year's course in the Queen City Business college at Sioux Falls. Becoming twenty years of age, he rented land

and started farming for himself. In 1900 he bought a quarter section of land in South Dakota, which he retained for three years. Disposing of this, he invested in a 400 acre farm in Sargent county, North Dakota. He later sold that and bought the northwest quarter of section 14, range 47, Martin township, his present home. His place adjoins his boyhood home. At the present time he is also the owner of 80 acres of land in Swift county, Minnesota.

At Hills, on October 10, 1895, occurred the marriage of Mr. Halvorson to Laura M. Rossum, who was born February 9, 1876. She is the daughter of Bent and Maren Rossum, of Martin township. To them the following children have been born: Myrtle E., on September 13, 1896; Ida L., on January 20, 1898; Palmer B., on April 25, 1900; Lawrence R., on February 26, 1902; Helge L., on May 19, 1904; Edna V., on August 30, 1906; Malvin A., on August 11, 1908.

In addition to his farming, Mr. Halvorson has several business interests. He is a stockholder in the Hills Creamery company. For three years he was a director of the company and for two years was its vice president. He has been secretary of the Martin Township Farmers Telephone association for several years. He has stock in the Farmers Elevator company of Valley Springs. He was one of the incorporators of the Farmers State Bank of Hills and has ever since been a director of the same. He has been a local correspondent for the Hills Crescent since 1905. He holds membership in the Synod church.

GEORGE A. LOHR (1855), a progressive Magnolia township farmer for the past twenty-two years, is a native of Franklin county, Pennsylvania, where his mother and father, Jacob and Elizabeth (Fautz) Lohr were also born. January 11, 1855, is the date of his nativity.

The first twenty years of George Lohr's life were spent on his father's farm in the Keystone state. He secured his early education in the district schools of the vicinity. In 1874 George came west and located in Benton county, Iowa, which, with the exception of four years, was his

home until 1889, the date of his advent to Rock county. During the four years referred to our subject returned east and completed his education, graduating from Vinton academy. On his return to Benton county he engaged in teaching school during the winter months and doing farm work in the summer. The last three years of his residence there he engaged in farming for himself.

Upon his arrival in Rock county he purchased his present farm, the northeast quarter of section 4, Magnolia township. A wild tract of prairie land when it came into his possession, in the course of development it has come to be one of the finely improved farms in the township. An elegant modern residence was erected thereon during the year 1909. Mr. Lohr has taken an active interest in local affairs. He is at the present and has been continuously for fifteen years past a member of the board of township supervisors, serving a portion of the long term as the board's chairman. For fourteen years he has served school district No. 6 as its clerk. He is a member of the Magnolia lodge, M. W. A.

At Hooppole, Illinois, on April 28, 1886, Mr. Lohr was united in marriage to Anna Rapp, a native of Henry county, Illinois. They are the parents of the following children: Mabel, born April 17, 1888; Lester, born November 1, 1890; Earl, born November 9, 1893; and Clarence, born June 26, 1903.

EINAR C. DAHL (1885) is the secretary of two of the leading business enterprises in the thriving town of Hills, namely, the Hills Mercantile company and the Hills Co-operative Creamery company. He is a native of Norway, the date of his birth being August 22, 1873, and is the son of Charles and Eli Dahl. The mother died in Norway, but Charles Dahl, who came to America in 1885, resides at Rock Rapids, Iowa.

Einar was in his twelfth year when he crossed the Atlantic, and on landing at New York came direct to Rock county. For the first three years his summers were spent working on a Martin township farm and during the other seasons he was a student in the Luverne public schools. For

two years thereafter he was employed in a tow mill at Rock Rapids, Iowa. In 1893 he moved on to a Lyon county farm, three miles south of Hills, which was purchased by Mr. Dahl and his father. He farmed the place until August, 1908, when he moved to Hills to assume the management and secretaryship of the Hills Mercantile company, of which he was one of the influential organizers and is a heavy stockholder. He also owns considerable stock in the Hills Co-operative Creamery company, of which he is the secretary. He is also the owner of farm land in Lyon county, Iowa, and of property in Hills. While living on the farm in Lyon county he served for three years as road supervisor and was a member of the district school board.

Mr. Dahl was married at Rock Rapids May 27, 1899, to Olena Olson, a native of Norway, who came to this country at the age of fifteen years. Mr. and Mrs. Dahl have four children: Emma, Carl, Arvid and Elmer. He is a member of the M. W. A. lodge and of the United Norwegian Lutheran church.

The Hills Mercantile company is one of the largest business concerns in southern Rock county. It was organized early in 1903 by a number of the representative business men of Hills and farmers in the vicinity. Established essentially to conduct a grain elevator, the business has expanded until now the concern deals in many staples of merchandise, chiefly flour, feed and other mill stuffs. The incorporators were E. C. Loose, John Hilgersen, A. T. Sexe, O. G. Qualley, H. E. Wyum, T. Johnson, E. C. Dahl, John Nelson and P. H. Bly. The present officers of the company are: President, O. G. Qualley; vice president, E. B. Johnson; secretary and manager, E. C. Dahl; treasurer, Carl Woodrow. These officers together with A. T. Sexe, G. D. Nelson, F. J. Miller and Nels Iverson constitute the board of directors.

The Hills Co-operative Creamery company, in which our subject is heavily interested, was established in 1897 and is controlled by an organization of prominent farmers, there being at the present time a total of 102 share-holders in the enterprise. For the past nine years the company has returned dividends averaging ten per cent of the capital stock. During

its existence the creamery has paid out more than a quarter of a million dollars to its patrons. The average price paid for butter fat during 1909 was twenty-nine cents per pound. The present board of directors consists of O. G. Qualley, A. C. Finke, E. C. Dahl and F. C. Nuffer. The trustees are A. T. Sexe, B. E. Rossum and Nels Iverson. The following is the staff of officers: President, O. G. Qualley; vice president, A. C. Finke; secretary, E. C. Dahl; treasurer, F. C. Nuffer. Andrew Hansen is the expert butter maker.

DR. CHARLES O. WRIGHT (1898), a leading medical practitioner in Luverne, of which city he is also the mayor, is a native son of Minnesota and comes from a family of state pioneers. His father, John Wright, came to America from his native land, England, during his youth and in 1851 made settlement in the North Star state, selecting his residence near the town of Point Douglas, Washington county. Elizabeth Stevens, who became the wife of John Wright, is a Canadian by birth and preceded her future husband to Minnesota by one year. The Stevens family located at Cottage Grove, also in Washington county. After long and active careers of good works, Mr. and Mrs. John Wright now live in retirement in the city of Hastings. Seven children were born to this union, all of whom are living. They are W. J., of Hastings; Asa, who operates the old home farm; Dr. Charles O., of this review; Mrs. T. M. Heathington, of St. Paul; Mrs. Alfred Perkins, of Newport, Minnesota; Mrs. B. T. King, of Hastings; and Mrs. Fred Maelicke, of Boise, Idaho.

On the old Washington county farm, the twenty-sixth of May, 1864, occurred the nativity of our subject. After completing the high school course at the Hastings school, Charles, having determined upon a physician's career, read medicine and received instruction along that line in the office of Dr. Thorne, of Hastings, remaining there for a year. He then matriculated for a course in medicine at the old Minnesota Hospital college, of Minneapolis. A year later this institution was merged with the St. Paul College of Medicine, and from this combination was created the

medical college of the university of Minnesota. The class of 1890, with which Dr. Wright was graduated, was the second class to receive diplomas from the university's regular college of medicine.

For a year after completing his studies Dr. Wright was employed as physician on the construction work with the Northern Pacific railroad in Montana during the time of the building of the line from Missoula, Montana, to Mullan, Idaho. In the spring of 1891 he located in the town of Kasson, Minnesota, which was his home for seven and one-half years, or until he established his present residence at Luverne, in 1898. Before leaving Kasson he took a post graduate course at the New York City Polyclinic. Dr. Wright has offices in the Rock County Bank block and since locating in Luverne has achieved distinctive success in his chosen profession.

As a leading public-spirited citizen Dr. Wright is always found to the forefront of every movement that means for a bigger and better Luverne, whether it be for civic, moral or social progress. He served for two terms as chairman of the local board of health and is an ex-county physician. For two years he presided over the common city council and in 1907 was elevated to the mayor's chair. Again, in 1910, he was called upon to head another successful administration, and he is at this time the incumbent of the highest office in the gift of the municipality. Dr. Wright is a stockholder in two of Luverne's leading enterprises: the Luverne Automobile company and the Luverne Realty company. He is a prominent figure in fraternal circles and holds membership in the A. F. & A. M., I. O. O. F., K. of P., M. W. A., R. N. A. and A. O. U. W. lodges, and is medical examiner for all of them, as well as for a number of the old line companies. The doctor is a member of the American Medical association, the Minnesota State Medical society, the Southwestern Minnesota Medical society and the Sioux Valley Medical society, having been president of the latter in 1908 and 1909.

At Kasson, on October 4, 1893, Dr. Charles O. Wright was married to Nanna D. Ruhberg, a native of that Dodge county town. To this union have been born the following named three children: Donald

R., C. Osborn, who died at the age of fourteen months, and Helen C.

HANS T. AUSEN (1881), of Rose Dell township, has resided in Rock county since he was seven years of age, and that continuously on one place, the southwest quarter of section 22, land homesteaded by his father. A native of Norway, he was born in Skjismo on January 14, 1874.

He came to America with his parents, Martin H. and Ellen (Hauglid) Ausen, in 1881. The family journeyed direct to Rock county, the father filing a homestead claim to the land described above. Hans was educated in the district schools of Rose Dell and assisted his father in the management of the home farm until 1907, when he rented the place and has since conducted it for his own advantage. The parents are now residents of Jasper. Mr. Ausen is a successful stock raiser and makes a specialty of Belgian horses, Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs. He has been a member of the township board for the past eleven years and a school director for seven years. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator company of Jasper and the Jasper Co-operative Mercantile company, of which he is also a clerk.

Our subject was married in Luverne on February 12, 1907, to Emma Bieber, the daughter of George J. and Johanna E. (Eik) Bieber, natives of Germany and Norway, respectively. Mrs. Ausen has spent her entire life in Rock county and was born on November 3, 1879. One daughter, Gladys E., was born to this union, on December 2, 1908.

Mr. Ausen dwelt in a sod shanty for fifteen years until 1896. He has in his possession the first horse bought by his father. The faithful animal is now thirty years of age but is still in good working condition. Mr. and Mrs. Ausen are members of the Synod Norwegian Lutheran church.

P. B. BOYSEN (1883) is an extensive farmer and large land owner of Clinton township. He farms nearly 500 acres, all his property, which include the west half

of section 16 and the northeast quarter of section 17, Clinton township. He is a successful breeder of high grade stock.

Mr. Boysen is a native of Denmark and was born in Jylland the twenty-fifth day of August, 1860. He is the son of Simen and Anna (Peterson) Boysen, both of whom died in Denmark, the former ten years ago and the mother five years later. Our subject's life of twenty-two years in the land of the Danes was spent on his father's farm, as a student in the country schools, and as a farm laborer. Crossing the Atlantic in 1883, he came direct to Luverne, later in the same year spending four months in the city of Eau Claire, Wisconsin. He then returned to Rock county.

For the first six years he worked out on different farms in Clinton township and then bought his present home, the northwest quarter of section 16. The raw piece of prairie land of those days has developed into one of the best improved and most attractive farms in the precinct. His other property was acquired in later years. Mr. Boysen for six years served school district No. 43 as its treasurer. For two years he was the president of the Farmers Elevator company of Steen, in which company he continues to hold stock. He is also a stockholder in the Plano Harvester company.

In Steen, on the tenth day of July, 1891, Mr. Boysen was joined in wedlock to Ranghilda Amalia Steen, the eldest daughter of Ole P. Steen, deceased. She was born in Wisconsin in 1869. The following nine children have been born to these parents: Samuel Olof, born July 12, 1892; Olen Bortinius, born February 1, 1894; Arthur Melvin, born February 20, 1896; Perry Henry, born October 1, 1898; Bertha Alvina, born April 7, 1901, died July 11, 1902; Henry Steen, born April 4, 1903, died March 8, 1904; Della Fredeina, born December 4, 1904; Clara Almira, born June 27, 1907; Lawrence Sherman, born December 5, 1908. Mr. Boysen and family are members of the United Lutheran church of Hills.

FRANK E. WELKER (1878) has for the past nine years been president of the Beaver Creek village council and is the proprietor of an industry that has put Beaver Creek on the map. He is the manufact-

urer of a patent pool game register of his own invention, a product that has a universal sale in all parts of the country, and his plant is the only one of its kind in existence.

The first register that Mr. Welker produced was patented June 30, 1903, but was a very crude affair and failed to entirely answer the requirement. An improvement over the first idea, patented September 8 of the same year, met with more success. A third patent was taken out January 30, 1906, and is the one that stands back of the perfected apparatus that is now being turned out and is in such great demand. The manufacturing plant is up-to-date in every particular, with modern appliances and machinery, and the output averages fifty registers a day. Mr. Welker finds it necessary to employ several men to carry on the industry, which is a very important one to the village.

Frank E. Welker has been a resident of Rock county all except the first ten years of his life. He was born near Rochester, Minnesota, March 27, 1868, and is the eldest son of L. S. and Edna (Williams) Welker, who located in Beaver Creek township in 1878. They homesteaded a quarter section and bought a like amount of land in that township. In 1886 with their children they moved to the village and resided there until twelve years ago, when they removed to their present home in Wessington, South Dakota.

Frank obtained his education in the Beaver Creek schools. At the age of twenty-one he became a clerk in the store of E. C. Conant and was employed in that capacity for five years. Then with his father he purchased the business from Mr. Conant and conducted the store until 1898. On selling, Mr. Welker established a new general store in the village and conducted it five years. He traded the business for land and for a year thereafter was employed by the John Lund land agency. In 1903 he commenced the manufacturing business in which he is now engaged and of which mention has already been made.

In civic affairs and in all measures that have meant for the improvement and welfare of his home town, Mr. Welker has always been actively interested. His service to the village began in 1901 when he

was elected to the village council and served two terms. Since then at each succeeding election up to date he has been chosen president of the council by his fellow townsmen. He has also held the office of township treasurer for the past eight years, and for nine years was a member of the local school board. He is a member of the Beaver Creek band and of the Yeomen lodge.

Mr. Welker was united in marriage to Nannie B. Lukensmyer on May 27, 1900. Mrs. Welker was born in Iowa, the twenty-first day of March, 1874. One daughter, Dorothy, was born to these parents, on November 27, 1903.

HANS HARALDSON (1878) has been identified with the agricultural interests of Rock county since 1878 and now owns and farms the southwest quarter of section 34, Martin township.

Hans Haraldson first saw the light of day in Landspresteld, Norway, on February 19, 1863. When a lad of seven he accompanied his parents, Lars and Olava (Olson), Haraldson, to America and located with them near Waukon, Allamakee county, Iowa. In that locality the father rented property and engaged in farming until 1878. In May of that year the Haraldson family, in company with several other Norwegian families who had decided to settle in Rock county, Minnesota, of which glowing reports had been received, made the journey via the overland route. In the fall Mr. Haraldson homesteaded a quarter on section 12, Rose Dell township, and continued to make that his home up to the time of his death, July 5, 1908. The respected pioneer was seventy-eight years old at the time of his decease. His wife lives on the old homestead and is seventy-nine years of age.

Our subject passed the first five years of his residence in Rock county assisting his father on the home farm and then located on his present farm. The farm on section 34 was homesteaded by Mary Ingerson, who on March 30, 1883, became the wife of Mr. Haraldson. She is the daughter of Iver and Annie Iverson, both deceased. Mrs. Haraldson was born in Norway February 17, 1853, came to this country in 1870, and to

Rock county three years later. The young couple at first lived in a rough claim shanty, 14x16 feet in dimension. Since the early days the farm has been improved and is one of the best in the precinct. In addition to his Rock county holdings, Mr. Haraldson has an interest in a quarter section of Red Lake county, Minnesota, land. He is a member of the Lutheran Synod church of Hills.

To Mr. and Mrs. Haraldson have been born the following children: Clara (Mrs. T. O. Gilleboe), of Hillyard, Washington, born September 16, 1884; Louis, who lives at home, born June 12, 1886; Adolph, of Hillyard, Washington, born September 6, 1888; Iver, born December 2, 1891; Mabel, born May 6, 1896.

ERLAND JOHNSON (1892) is one of Rock county's progressive farmers. He started twenty-five years ago with no capital except ambition and willingness to toil, and today he owns one of the most thoroughly improved farms and finest farm homes in Springwater township. His land is located on the southeast quarter of section 21.

Erland Johnson is a native of Sweden and was born in Dalsland April 8, 1866. He received an early education in the common schools and was left an orphan at the age of sixteen years by the death of both his parents, who were John and Lena (Larson) Anderson. The year following this bereavement, in 1883, our subject with two younger sisters, one eleven years of age and the other five, undertook the long journey to America. They made their home with a sister in Sioux Falls, who had preceded them to this country several years. Erland found employment with a farmer and received as emolument the sum of eight dollars per month. In 1888 he rented land and commenced farming for himself and was able, two years later, to buy his present Rock county farm, upon which he moved in 1892 and upon which he has resided since. Mr. Johnson was a member of the township board one year and of the school board six years. He owns stock in the Beaver Creek Farmers Elevator company. He and his family are members of the Synod Norwegian Lutheran church.

In Luverne, on June 6, 1894, Mr. Johnson

was married to Ella Johnson, who was born in Norway April 11, 1876, the daughter of John and Christine (Stenerson) Anderson. Eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, of whom four are dead, Laura and Lena, twins, were born December 1, 1896. The former died the day following her birth, and the latter followed a year later, on December 5, 1897. A. Elmer was born April 12, 1903, and died November 27, 1905. Julia E. was born June 29, 1909, and died May 9, 1910. The following children are living: J. Victor, born May 2, 1895; O. Cecil, born November 8, 1898; Ernest L., born March 2, 1901; and Walter I., born March 6, 1905.

JAMES E. BLACK (1877). For more than a score of years, in consecutive order, the gentleman whose name heads this review has been the sheriff of Rock county. He is held in high esteem by his constituency, not only for fidelity in the discharge of a public trust, but also for the influence of a rare and winning personality. A pioneer of the county, he has been anything but a laggard in making possible its onward march of progress.

James E. Black is one in a family of four stalwart sons and as many daughters, whose parents were Elam W. and Amanda (Harrington) Black, both born in Onondaga county, New York, and both buried in Wabasha county, Minnesota. He was born in Huron county, Ohio, the third day of December, 1845. When a lad of seven years he removed with his parents to Washington county, Wisconsin, and from there to Jo Daviess county, Illinois. There he received an education and there he was employed when the great struggle between the north and the south called for the best blood in the land to repair the breach between the disrupted sections of a great nation.

Mr. Black enlisted at Warren, Illinois, on August 4, 1862, in company K, Ninety-Sixth Illinois infantry, with which he served with distinction until discharged at Nashville, Tennessee, on June 11, 1865. Mr. Black's command saw active service in the southern campaign and among other memorable engagements participated in the battles of Lookout Mountain, Chickamauga, Kennesaw

Mountain, Aasaka and Nashville. Mr. Black was shot through the left arm at the battle of Chickamauga, and while assisting in the defense of Fort Shaler, he received a nasty wound in the right leg.

Upon the return of peace our subject returned to Warren, Illinois, and remained there until the fall of 1866, when he located at Mazeppa, Wabasha county, Minnesota, where he farmed until coming to Rock county in 1877. He took as a homestead claim the southeast quarter of section 8, Denver township, and lived on his land until 1889, moving that year to the city of Luverne, which has since been his home. During his residence in Denver township Mr. Black served for ten years as chairman of the board of supervisors. As a result of the election of 1890, Mr. Black became sheriff of Rock county, in which capacity he has served his county up to the present date. Until the county jail was erected in 1899, his office and the county stronghold were located in the basement of the court house. The deputy sheriffs under Mr. Black are David Beers and C. H. Peterson.

At Red Wing, Minnesota, on March 22, 1869, Mr. Black was married to Almira Savage, a native of Franklin, Pennsylvania, where she was born February 26, 1848, the daughter of Rufus and Mercy (Smith) Savage. Three children have been born to this union: Edna (Mrs. Bert Arnold), of Staples, Minnesota; Roy and Jessie. Mr. Black is a member of the John Dix Post No. 96, G. A. R., and of Myrtle Lodge No. 67, I. O. O. F.

GEORGE V. GANFIELD (1882), a farmer of Battle Plain township, was born in and has passed his entire life within the borders of Rock county. He is the son of George W. and Talitha (Mason) Ganfield, who homesteaded in Kanaranzi township in 1876. The father of our subject was born in New York state and his mother is a native of Indiana.

George first saw the light of day on the Kanaranzi township homestead on August 4, 1882. He was nine years of age when the family moved to Luverne and in that city he was educated. He was graduated from the Luverne high school with the class of 1901, following which he was employed in the grocery store of E. B. Burley for six

months. He was a bookkeeper in the Rock County Bank for a year, bought grain for E. A. Brown for a like period, and then acquired a six months' experience in the restaurant business under F. B. Burley. Following that, Mr. Ganfield commenced his career as a Battle Plain township farmer. He farmed different tracts of land before moving to his present location, in the spring of 1910. He now farms 200 acres on sections 18 and 19.

Our subject was married in Ashcreek June 13, 1906, to Anna M. Schlueter, who was born in Omaha, Nebraska, and who is the daughter of Henry and Hannah (Law) Schlueter. Two children have been born to this union: Lawrence E., born March 8, 1908, and Clifford V., born September 3, 1909. Mr. Ganfield is a member of the Methodist church and is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen and the Knights of Pythias lodges.

WILLIAM F. FINKE (1889) is president of the Farmers State Bank and a representative citizen and a prominent business man of the village of Hills. A native of Dane county, Wisconsin, he was born March 16, 1874. He was fourteen years of age when he accompanied his parents to Rock county and located with them in Clinton township, where he resided until twenty-one years of age. He then bought a farm near Ashcreek and conducted that until moving to Hills in 1903. That village has since been his place of residence.

Mr. Finke bought out the implement business of Knutson & Helgersen, admitting his brother John to partnership the same year. This association existed for a period of four years, when William disposed of his interests to his brother and retired from the firm. He managed the yard of the Loonan Lumber company for a year, and for the same period was in charge of the Benson Grain company's elevator. He still represents that firm in Hills during the grain season. Mr. Finke was one of the organizers of the Farmers State Bank, established in July, 1909, and has been its only president. He is also interested in the well known Rock county real estate firm of A. C. Finke Land agency.

Our subject is the son of Christian and

Mary (Eikmeier) Finke, who came to America from their native country of Germany in 1858. They first made settlement in Wisconsin, leaving there to come to Rock county in 1888. The father died on his farm in Clinton township in 1905. His wife is still living on the home farm.

William F. Finke was married at Steen on July 16, 1902, to Mary Paulsen, who was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in 1872. At an early age she removed with her parents to Rock county. Her father, John Paulsen, now resides in Colorado.

Mr. Finke is a public spirited man who has given much of his time and energy to the promotion of every worthy cause that has meant for the progress and material welfare of the flourishing little Rock county town which is his home. For three years, commencing in 1907, he was president of the village council and he is still a member of that body.

ANDREW L. SKRONDAHL (1884), of Springwater township, is a native Norwegian and was born in Oxendahl January 30, 1867, the son of Lars and Mildre (Selgeby) Skrondahl. He received a common school education and at the age of seventeen journeyed alone to America, coming direct to Rock county. He worked for different Beaver Creek township farmers until 1891, since which time he has lived on and conducted his own farm, the north half of the northeast quarter of section 36, range 47, Springwater township. He has made all the improvements on the place and has achieved success as a tiller of the soil.

On the fourth of December, 1892, in Luverne, Mr. Skrondahl married Denah Bjerk, whose birth occurred January 12, 1874. The following four children have been born to these parents: Louisa M., born January 13, 1894; Lue H., born September 14, 1901; Ole R., born December 7, 1904; and Alvin D., born June 18, 1906.

FRED KREPS (1882) is one of the successful landowners and farmers of Luverne township, his farm being described as the northwest quarter of section 33, five miles southwest of the city of Luverne. He came to Rock county twenty-nine years ago, a

poor man, but by hard work and strict attention to business he has prospered and is today rated among the most prosperous farmers of his township.

Fred Kreps was born in Ohio December 19, 1855. He is of Swiss ancestry, his father, Chris Kreps, and his mother, Ann (Chapler) Kreps, both having been born in Switzerland. The former died in 1874, the latter in 1884. When Fred was a baby the family moved from Ohio to Bureau county, Illinois, and that was the family home for the next ten or twelve years. Then the family located near Geneseo, Henry county, Illinois, and there Fred resided until coming to Rock county in 1882. He spent his boyhood days working on the farm, part of the time for his father and part of the time for others, and in securing a common school education. He began farming for himself in 1880 and two years later came to Rock county.

The date of his arrival to this county was March 7, 1882. The first five years were spent farming south of Luverne, he having rented the J. J. Shuck farm. He then bought his present property, upon which he has ever since lived. At the time of purchase the land was raw prairie—containing not a stick or tree,—and he has made all the improvements on the farm. He has a nice home and a well improved farm. Mr. Kreps is a stockholder in the National Bank of Luverne. He served three years as a supervisor of Luverne township, and for the last fifteen years has been treasurer of school district No. 13. For several years he was constable of his precinct and now holds the offices of road overseer, assessor and treasurer. He is a member of the A. O. U. W. lodge.

At Geneseo, Illinois, on March 24, 1878, Mr. Kreps was united in marriage to Ida L. Thompson, who was born at Portland, Illinois, March 8, 1860. To these parents have been born the following named children: Guy F., born August 11, 1879; L. Luverne, born November 11, 1882; Elsie T. and Elzie T., twins, born June 14, 1885; Ines E., born June 7, 1894. L. Luverne is now the wife of Jesse Goembel; all the other children reside at home.

GRANT A. KNOWLTON (1887) is the progressive hardware and implement dealer in the town of Kenneth. He also carries a full line of harness, and in that connection conducts the only manufactory in the village. He has in his employ W. J. Smith, an expert harness maker. Mr. Knowlton is the son of T. E. and Margery (Bethel) Knowlton and was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, January 29, 1877.

Until reaching his tenth year Grant belonged to the Badger state, and then with his parents came to Rock county, the family locating in Magnolia township. After a year and a half the family moved to Lismore township, Nobles county, and on his father's farm in that precinct our subject lived until 1897, receiving an education at the nearby district school. At the age of twenty he married and for four years thereafter was engaged in farming for himself on rented land in Lismore township. In 1902 his residence in Kenneth commenced. Mr. Knowlton set up in the farm implement business, three years later adding a complete line of hardware and admitting his father and brother James into partnership. The firm known as T. E. Knowlton & Sons continued two years, when Grant bought out the other interests and has since conducted the business in his own name, G. A. Knowlton. For the past seven years he has acceptably fulfilled the duties of constable.

Mr. Knowlton was married in Rock county on September 7, 1897, to Nellie Rolph, the daughter of Charles E. Rolph, now of Magnolia. Mrs. Knowlton was born on her grandfather's old homestead in Battle Plain township September 3, 1880. Six children have been born to this union: Leora, born May 28, 1899; Ruth, born November 6, 1901; Charles, born July 19, 1903; Cedric, born January 5, 1906; Kenneth, born March 7, 1908; Floyd, born November 15, 1910.

HENRY M. PAULSEN (1879), ex-county commissioner from the third district and a prominent Clinton township farmer and stock raiser, is a son of John and Matilda (Neizkie) Paulsen, early day settlers of Clinton township and now residents of Flagler, Colorado. A review of the career of John Paulsen is given elsewhere in this

From the date of founding the pioneer journal has never missed an issue, but in the early days circumstances arose which sorely tried the publisher's wits to maintain this record. As an instance: During the snow blockade of 1880-81, when the ground was covered with four feet of the beautiful and the little village of Pipestone had been without mail, express or freight matter for eighty days, the Star was printed on colored paper for two weeks, then for several weeks on brown wrapping paper, which was secured from the stores, and when the supply was exhausted the Star appeared one week in miniature form on pages cut from a stock of scrap books which were carried in the old Star book store.

From January 22, 1884, until February 11, 1887, the Star was published as a semi-weekly, a seven column folio in size. On the last named date the weekly issue was resumed and the paper was enlarged to a quarto. Gardner E. Hart, son of the founder, was at this time admitted as a partner, and the publishing firm became I. L. Hart & Son. At the close of the year 1889 the founder of the paper withdrew temporarily from active management, although retaining his property interests in the paper, and Gardner E. Hart became sole manager. He published the paper as a six column quarto and in October, 1891, bought his father's interest and became the sole owner and publisher. I. L. Hart conducted the job department and assisted in the management of the paper to some extent.

The Pipestone Daily Star was founded April 4, 1892, and had an existence of nearly sixteen years, being discontinued on the last day of the year 1907. It was an evening journal, was founded as a five column folio, but was soon enlarged to a six column paper. There is, perhaps, no town in the state of Minnesota of the

size of Pipestone which supported a daily paper for so long a time.

Gardner E. Hart withdrew from the business March 31, 1900, and the publishers became Star Printing company, Ralph G. Hart, a younger son of the founder, becoming a member of the firm and taking editorial charge. Another change in management was made in May, 1904, when the Star Printing company was organized with the following officers: I. L. Hart, manager; K. G. Hart, secretary and treasurer; Ralph G. Hart, editor. At the present time Ralph G. Hart has editorial charge.

During the time the Daily Star was published the weekly edition was also maintained. Since the suspension of the daily a semi-weekly Star has taken the place of the weekly. The Star is republican politically. It has always been a factor in the advancement of the city of Pipestone and of Pipestone county and is rated as one of the leading papers of southwestern Minnesota. The plant is equipped with modern machinery and is a model in every way.

Pipestone county's second newspaper was not destined to live long. In the summer of 1880 Gardner E. Hart, of the Pipestone County Star, put a plant in the little village of Edgerton, then just founded, and on July 24, 1880, issued the first number of the Edgerton News, a six column folio. In September of the same year Jerome Davidson was installed as manager, but the venture not being a successful one, on October 2 publication was suspended and in November the plant was purchased by Morse & Chapman, of Lake Benton, and moved away.

Edgerton was a progressive little city in the early eighties, the spirit of its citizens demanded the publication of a paper there and it was not long before offers of support were given for the estab-

lishment of another journal. The Edgerton Enterprise was founded as a seven column folio by A. R. Burkdoll on April 28, 1883, and that gentleman was connected with the paper for over three years. From October 11, 1884, to May 30, 1885, R. H. Lueneburg, now of Lakefield, was associated with Mr. Burkdoll in the management of the paper, and for two months during the closing days of 1885 A. B. Barney was the publisher, he having bought the plant, but after a short reign having turned it back to Mr. Burkdoll. During its early history the Enterprise was a republican paper.

To prevent the suspension of the paper, in the fall of 1887, William Lockwood, J. C. Fay and C. S. Howard, local business men, bought the plant in company with J. C. Marshall, the latter assuming editorial control October 1, and a little later becoming sole proprietor of the Enterprise. Mr. Marshall conducted the paper as a democratic organ for a number of years and the paper and its editor were prominent factors in the political life of Pipestone county. He was in charge of the plant until the last of December, 1893, with the exception of a few months during the panic year. O. E. Houge conducted the paper from December, 1892, to May, 1893, and then turned the office back to Mr. Marshall. J. Baxter Brennan leased the office in July of the same year but gave up the management after three weeks' trial.

A sale of the Enterprise was effected at the beginning of the year 1894, when E. C. Brake became the owner. He conducted the paper only until September of the same year and then sold to William Lockwood, who installed A. P. McDowell as editor and made the journal a republican organ. Mr. McDowell published his valedictory on Christmas day, 1896, and during the next year William McCune man-

aged the paper for Mr. Lockwood. At the beginning of the year 1898 the latter sold the paper to Prof. L. W. Ham, formerly principal of the Edgerton schools, and W. C. Akers, who conducted the publication under the firm name of Ham & Akers, changing the form to a five column quarto soon after assuming control and continuing it as a republican paper. Mr. Akers was in editorial charge until June 1, 1898, when he enlisted in the army and the partnership was dissolved, Mr. Ham becoming sole publisher. That gentleman published a creditable journal until the disposal of the plant in August, 1900.

The new proprietors were Oscar A. Green, who became editor and manager, and Lee W. Lockwood, who assumed the duties of local editor. They began printing the paper all at home in December, 1900, and one year later enlarged it to a six column quarto, which has ever since remained the form. Ed. Yocom bought Lee Lockwood's interest on January 1, 1902, and the publishing firm became Green & Yocom, Mr. Green continuing as manager and editor. On October 29, 1903, W. V. Olin became a member of the publishing firm, being associated with Messrs. Green and Yocom until June 9, 1904.

The last change in the affairs of the Edgerton Enterprise occurred December 1, 1905, when William Lockwood and Lee W. Lockwood purchased the plant. It was then leased for a term of years by Oscar A. Green and L. L. Green and its management is now vested in Oscar A. Green, who publishes an excellent journal. The Enterprise, during its long life, has had a varied career, but it has always been an important factor in the affairs of the little village in which it is published and in the history of Pipestone county journalism.

The fourth paper to bid for the patron-

farm a short distance from town and there resided six years, attending school and working on the farm and at the threshing business. He completed his education with a course in the Davenport Business college.

Mr. Bierkamp located in Luverne in 1903 and that city has since been his home. For several years he engaged in the threshing business and as an employe of the Luverne Automobile company, working in the repair department. On May 1, 1909, Mr. Bierkamp and his father organized the Home Automobile company, which handles the Regal, Buick and Ford cars. The Bierkamps also conduct a repair shop and an auto livery and handle automobile supplies. Our subject is a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Bierkamp were born in Germany, coming to America when children. They settled in Muscatine county, Iowa, where they resided many years. Henry Bierkamp was one of the principal business men of Stockton, owning an implement house, two grain elevators, saloon, hotel and dance hall, and engaging in the stock and grain and threshing business. He sold out in Stockton, lived on the farm near there five years, and located in Luverne in 1903.

Otto Bierkamp was married in Luverne April 14, 1909, to Bertha Bergfreth, who was born in Walcott, Scott county, Iowa, December 9, 1886, and who is the daughter of Henry Bergfreth, of Springwater township.

HENRY BIERKAMP (1903) is the proprietor of Luverne's up-to-date automobile livery and garage known as the Home Automobile company and a dealer in several of the leading makes of machines and gasoline engines. He is a native of Hanover, Germany, and was born January 4, 1853, coming to this country fourteen years later.

He first located with his parents in Scott county, Iowa, where he was educated and assisted with the work on his father's farm until after his twenty-third birthday. He then married and for three years farmed on his own account. He then established himself in the implement, grain and stock business in Stockton, Iowa, which proved to be a successful venture, as has every-

thing else that Mr. Bierkamp has attempted. He still owns the business at Stockton, which is managed by a son. For seven years, commencing in 1896, our subject farmed in Muscatine county, Iowa, after which he disposed of the farm, for which he had paid \$50 an acre, at a clear profit of 100 per cent. Nineteen hundred three is the date of his advent to Rock county. He bought a farm in Springwater township, on section 27, for which he paid \$50 an acre. Since moving to Luverne in April, 1909, and engaging in his present line of business with his son Otto, his farm has been managed by a tenant. H. Bierkamp & Son have done a prosperous automobile business, selling during the first season a total of thirty-five new and five old machines and during the second year sixty cars. They handle the Buick, Ford and Regal cars. In 1910 they erected a handsome two-story pressed brick building to accommodate their growing business.

While a resident of Scott county, Iowa, on February 11, 1875, Sophia Claus, a native of Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, became the wife of Henry Bierkamp. To these parents have been born three sons and six daughters, all but three of whom are married. The names of the children are as follows: Henry F., Otto, John, Ida, Sophia, Laura, Matilda, Malinda and Louise.

Mr. Bierkamp is a member of the city council. While a resident of Stockton, Iowa, he held many offices of trust and was the leading merchant of the place and a leader in the civic and social affairs of the town. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. lodge and of the German Lutheran church. Mr. Bierkamp is a large property holder. He is the owner of 740 acres of fine land, divided as follows: a half section in Springwater township, a quarter section in Beaver Creek township and 260 acres in Nobles county. In Luverne he owns the substantial building which houses his business, the adjoining livery stable property and three residences besides his own handsome dwelling.

GEORGE B. WHITNEY (1878), manager of the Hubbard & Palmer Grain company's interests at Beaver Creek, is an early settler of Rock county. He is a native of New York state and was born in Allegany county May 3, 1856. At the age of nine he



BUILDING OF THE HOME AUTOMOBILE COMPANY OF LUVERNE



HENRY BIERKAMP



OTTO BIERKAMP

moved with his parents to Attica, Wyoming county, and a year and a half later to Cattaraugus county, in the same state. He attended the village school at Sandusky and until he was twenty-two resided on the farm of an uncle, J. R. Wilder.

Coming to Rock county in 1878, he was employed for several years on farms near Beaver Creek. He then homesteaded land in Turner county, South Dakota, and remained there nearly two years. Returning to Beaver Creek, he was employed until 1890 by Colonel White, the founder of the town, in his stores and elevator. The year mentioned Mr. Whitney went to Avoca, Minnesota, to assume the management of the Hubbard & Palmer company's elevator. Three years later he was transferred by the company to Beaver Creek, which has continued to be his home. For a period of seven or eight years he served as constable. He is a charter member of Beaver Creek Lodge No. 121, A. O. U. W.

George B. is one in a family of nine children, six of whom are living, whose parents were John O. and Mary (Russell) Whitney, natives of New York, born at Springwater and Rochester, respectively. The father died at Whitney's Crossing and the mother at Attica in New York state. The living members of this family, besides the subject of this sketch, are William G., Theron R., Charles R., Mrs. L. Bradley and Mrs. E. Hawley, all residents of New York state.

The geneology of the Whitney family can be traced in an unbroken record as far back as the ninth century—to King Petn of Wales. During the early settlement of America three brothers of the family came to this country and from them the American branch of the family originated. One of the brothers settled in New York, another in New Hampshire, but the third one was lost track of and it is thought that he met with foul play. The names of John and George have been favorite ones with the family from the earliest times.

At Beaver Creek, on November 16, 1881, Mr. Whitney was married to Vernie E. Williams, born October 15, 1862. They are the parents of the following four living children: Ray O., Mary, Grace and Charles. Two children are dead. One passed away in infancy; the other, Marshall, died March 25, 1906, at the age of twelve years.

Mrs. Whitney's father, Charles Williams, in 1872 homesteaded the land on which the village of Beaver Creek is now located, donating the land for the purpose of a town-site to the railroad company when it passed through in 1877. Mr. Williams died the year following. By his first wife, Mr. Williams had two sons, Orlando and John, who played an important part in the founding of the new town and in the events of its early history. Orlando Williams is now a resident of Lake Wilson, Minnesota, while his brother John is located at Pipestone. Mrs. Whitney and Charles O. Williams are children of Mr. Williams by his second marriage, to Elizabeth Barber, who died in 1873. Mr. Williams was married a third time in 1874 to Harriet Nash Barber, who was well known in the early days of the county's history. She passed away December 2, 1897, at the age of eighty-one years.

TOBIAS GUNDERSON (1884) is a Luverne township farmer and breeder of Durham and Shorthorn cattle whose fifty-four years of life have been evenly divided as a resident of Norway and of Rock county.

He was born April 25, 1857, at Berkland, Norway, the son of Gunder and Olena Olson. Tobias' parents were farmers and with them he lived and attended school until arriving at the age of fourteen. Leaving home, he went to Grimstad and engaged himself to the master of a merchant sailing vessel. For eight years, up to 1879, he led a seafaring life, then returned to the vicinity of his early home, where he bought a twenty acre farm and lived five years.

In 1884 Mr. Gunderson disposed of his holdings and crossed the great Atlantic, this time as a passenger. Arriving in America, he came direct to Luverne. For a number of years he worked out on different farms, finally, in 1896, buying the southwest quarter of section 26, Luverne township, and beginning farming for himself. In 1898 he sold his place and journeyed back to his native land, but stayed only a year, returning again to Luverne in 1899. A second time he invested in Rock county soil, the east half of the southwest quarter of section 36, in Luverne township, and there it is he makes his home today. He has added to his real estate during the years which have

followed by the purchase of 280 acres more of Luverne township land.

While a resident of Norway, Mr. Gunder-son was married to Maria Andrewson, the ceremony being performed at Berkland on April 25, 1879. To them two children have been born, Olena S., on January 2, 1883, and Gerty A., on May 10, 1891. Mr. Gunder-son is a member of the United Norwegian Lutheran church of Luverne and is one of the church directors.

JAMES A. HARROUN (1876), proprietor of a book, stationery and music store in Luverne, is one of the oldest business men in that city, having been engaged in his present business thirty-five years. He was born in Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, October 4, 1850, but spent only the first few years of his life in his native county. Until he reached his majority he resided with his parents, the family home during these years being, respectively, in Fond du Lac county, Adams county and Sparta, in Wisconsin; in Kansas; in Olmsted county, Minnesota; Cass county, Michigan; and in Mercer county, Illinois. During these years he received a common school education, principally in Illinois, Michigan and Minnesota, and for a time before reaching his majority taught school in Mercer county, Illinois.

Mr. Harroun left the family home in 1871 and located in Plymouth county, Iowa, near LeMars, where he took a homestead, engaging in teaching school during the winter months and farming during the summer seasons. He was elected county superintendent of schools of Plymouth county in 1873 and served a two-year term. In August, 1876, he located in the little village of Luverne, and that place has since been his home. Upon his arrival in Luverne Mr. Harroun engaged in the book, music and stationery business in partnership with his cousin, C. E. Hurlbut, who later sold his interest to C. O. Hawes; then the firm became Harroun & Hawes and so remained several years. During this time Mr. Hawes was postmaster of Luverne and our subject served as his deputy eleven years. Mr. Harroun bought his partner's interest in the store in 1895 and has since been sole proprietor. For several terms Mr. Harroun was village recorder and he was a member

of the local board of education ten years. He is a member of the Masonic lodge.

The father of our subject was Alban Harroun, a native of New York state and a contractor by occupation. He died at Fort Dodge, Iowa, in 1889, aged seventy-eight years. Nancy J. Churchill was the maiden name of the mother of our subject. She was born in Connecticut, of English ancestry. She is now living at Cherokee, Iowa, and is ninety-two years of age. Our subject was the eldest of four children born to these parents. The only other surviving child is Mrs. M. Welliver, of Cherokee, Iowa.

Mr. Harroun was married at LeMars, Iowa, June 13, 1878, to Kate McKay, a native of Canada and a daughter of Angus and Harriet McKay. To this union has been born one child, Eleanor, born May 26, 1883. She is employed as a teacher at Dodge Center, Minnesota.

ADOLPH SCHROEDER (1889), who owns and farms the southwest quarter of section 28, Springwater township, is a native of New Orleans, Louisiana, where he was born January 20, 1856, the son of William and Christina (Lang) Schroeder, who came to America from Germany in 1849 and located in New Orleans.

Adolph was educated and for seventeen years lived in New Orleans. In 1873 he moved to Scott county, Iowa, and worked there for three years. In 1876 he went west to California and Oregon, but returned the same fall to Scott county, Iowa, and during the next five years worked on farms. He then engaged in farming in Scott county, and was so engaged until 1889, when he came to Rock county and located on the farm on which he now lives. After farming the place nine years, he leased it to a tenant and went to Walcott, Iowa, where he engaged in the general merchandise business in partnership with William F. Ruge. He was in business there nine years and then sold to his partner, returning to his Rock county farm in 1907.

Mr. Schroeder was married at Walcott, Iowa, June 21, 1892, to Anna Ruge. Mrs. Schroeder is a daughter of Claus and Elsabe (Slump) Ruge, both natives of Germany. Mrs. Schroeder was born June 21, 1862. The following named four children have been

born to these parents: Elsie, born April 11, 1893; Lenora, born July 10, 1895; William, born September 8, 1898; Stella, born March 14, 1901.

LYCURGUS MERKEL (1872), one of Beaver Creek's prominent citizens, has passed all but the first four years of his life in active pursuits within the borders of Rock county. He was born in Rice county, Minnesota, the twentieth of January, 1868, the son of Jacob and Elizabeth N. (Dunn) Merkel, the latter of whom is deceased.

Jacob Merkel, the father of our subject, moved with his family from eastern Minnesota in 1872 and homesteaded the northeast quarter of section 21, Beaver Creek township, which continued to be the family home until 1900. In that year Lycurgus became a resident of Beaver Creek village and in partnership with his father engaged in the threshing business under the firm name of Merkel & Son. The Merkels have perhaps as complete an equipment for carrying on their business as is to be found in the county. Their outfit consists of two threshing rigs, two clover hullers, a saw mill and a repair shop in Beaver Creek, and during the threshing season they employ a large force of men and engage in their occupation on an extensive scale.

Lycurgus Merkel was married in Minneapolis June 24, 1901, to Blanche English, a native of Bloomington, Illinois. They have two children, named Reeva and Kenneth. Mr. Merkel holds membership in the Yeomen lodge and is at present serving a term as one of Beaver Creek's councilmen.

GEORGE QUALLEY (1876) is an old settler of Martin township and one of the precinct's most practical and progressive agriculturists. Upon his finely improved farm, the southwest quarter of section 4, has been erected within the past few years a large modern residence and a commodious barn, with but few equals in the township.

George is the son of Jacob J. and Engebor (Johnson) Qualley, and was born in Westre Slideri, Valdres, Norway, March 23, 1862. Eight years after his birth he accompanied his parents in their journey to the new world and resided with them for six years in

Winneshiek county, Iowa. The father, who had bought the northeast quarter of section 3, Martin township, moved there with his family in 1876. On that farm our subject grew to manhood and received an education in the near by district school. At the age of twenty-one he commenced farming for himself. During the next few years, in company with his brother, John, he bought the southeast quarter of section 29 and the southwest quarter of section 4. In 1894 the brothers divided their holdings, George receiving the last described land, which he has since farmed and resided upon, and he has made the many substantial improvements found thereon.

In Luverne, on the first day of July, 1893, George Qualley and Helen Knutson were married. She is the daughter of Knut and Olava (Olson) Sire, who came to America from Norway in 1874. The mother died July, 1878, in Martin township; the father resides in Hills. To Mr. and Mrs. Qualley the following five children have been born: Irne O., born May 30, 1894; Helmer G., born May 17, 1896; Clara O., born December 29, 1898; Mabel J., born February 12, 1902; and Lawrence E., born November 28, 1908. The family are members of the Synod Norwegian Lutheran church. Mr. Qualley is clerk of school district No. 39.

LEWIS G. LARSON (1876) is the son of one of the homesteaders of Beaver Creek township, Gunder Larson, who took as his claim in the late seventies the northeast quarter of section 12, range 47. The mother of our subject was Engeger (Blie) Larson.

Lewis G. Larson of this biography was born in Hardanger, Norway, April 20, 1868. When a child two years of age he accompanied his parents to this country and located with them in Decorah, Iowa. His father was variously employed there until 1876, when he brought his family to Rock county. Lewis' education in the district schools was supplemented by a two years' course in Decorah institute. After leaving school in 1893, he went to Codrington county, South Dakota, and taught for awhile, then clerked in general stores at Webster and Bradley for five years. In the fall of 1898 he returned to Rock

county and farmed rented land for eight years, or until moving to his present property in 1906, the northwest quarter of section 1, range 47, Beaver Creek township.

Lewis G. Larson was joined in marriage in South Dakota, on July 1, 1898, to Alma Hegna, the daughter of Erick and Martha (Scrabec) Hegna, natives of Norway. Mrs. Larson was born in Mower county, Minnesota, October 27, 1878. They are the parents of three children: Elmer G., born July 1, 1902; Reuben L., born March 7, 1904; and Mabel A., born January 11, 1905. Mr. Larson and family are members of the Synod Norwegian Lutheran church.

FREDERICK C. NUFFER (1874) is an early day settler of Rock county and is now one of the progressive and successful business men of Hills, a reliable dealer in hardware, tinware, cutlery, paints, oils, etc. His birth occurred in Cedar Falls, Iowa, on the second of November, 1871. In his third year Frederick moved with his parents to Rock county and settled with them on the southeast quarter of section 11, Martin township, which his father took as a homestead. Our subject worked for his father until attaining his majority, and then for four years he worked out on other farms. In the spring of 1895 he commenced his business career in Hills. He erected and is the owner of the substantial building which houses his business. In the fall of 1910 he bought the Thompson stock of hardware and combined the two stocks in the Thompson building. For the past three years Mr. Nuffer has been the efficient village assessor. He is a member of the M. W. A. lodge.

Frederick is the son of Fred and Margaret Nuffer, both natives of Germany who came to this country early in life. They lived in the eastern states until about 1865, when they moved to Cedar Falls, Iowa. In the early seventies they joined the stolid pioneers of Martin township. Mr. Nuffer lived on the old homestead until 1910, when he took up his residence in Hills. Margaret Nuffer died a short time after the family came to Rock county. Fred Nuffer was married a second time

in 1878 to Mrs. Patrina Hansen, a native of Denmark.

Frederick C. Nuffer of this review was married in Hills June 28, 1902, to Ingrid Aslesen, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Christ Aslesen, of Jasper. Mrs. Nuffer is a native Minnesotan, born September 27, 1876. To these parents three children have been born: Alice, born May 1, 1903; Albert, born March 28, 1906; Margaret, born September 25, 1907.

HENRY QUINBY SNOOK (1882) was for many years a well-known Rock county farmer, but of late he has retired from active pursuits and lives in the city of Luverne. He is the owner of one-half of section 30, Vienna township. He is a native of Illinois and was born in Logan county November 24, 1861, the son of George W. and Mary Magdalene (Fuller) Snook. The former parent was born in Maryland and died in April, 1899, aged seventy-six years. The mother of our subject was an Ohioan by birth and followed her husband to the grave the year after his decease. She was seventy-eight years of age at the time. The Snook family are of German descent.

As a lad of six Henry moved with his parents to McLean county, Illinois, where he was educated and grew to manhood on his father's farm. It was in 1882 that the family departed from Illinois and established their residence in Rock county. He resided on a farm two miles west of Luverne for nine years and for two years farmed his land in Vienna township, the home quarter of which had been bequeathed him by his father.

For two years thereafter our subject was absent from Rock county. The time was spent as a farmer in Henry county, Missouri. On returning, he rented his own place in Vienna and farmed the original place near Luverne. He resided there a year and for a like period resided just without the corporate limits of the village of Beaver Creek. Abandoning the farm for nine months, Mr. Snook engaged in the restaurant business at Marshall, Minnesota, but returned to take charge of his Vienna township holdings.

Mr. Snook lived in Luverne six months in 1902, and then went to Deuel county, South Dakota, where he followed his calling for a year. He returned to Luverne to engage in the restaurant and pool hall business, and for one year was the chief of police. From 1907 to the fall of 1910 Mr. Snook added more luster to his career as a Vienna township farmer, and again in 1910 he located in the fair capital city of the county, to make in it a permanent residence.

Henry Q. Snook was joined in marriage at Bellflower, Illinois, on March 9, 1881, to Emma Barnett, who was born in the town of her marriage on July 13, 1864. This union has been blessed by the following named children, five sons and one daughter: Charlie Leonard, who conducts the home farm, born April 24, 1882; Wesley Albert, of Luverne, born December 9, 1883; Maud Lauretta (Mrs. Elmer Tatge), of Beaver Creek township, born September 8, 1885; Martin Guy, of Luverne township, born December 8, 1887; Benjamin Wright, born August 12, 1892; and Floyd Daniel, born July 25, 1902. The last two named sons reside at home.

While a resident of Vienna township Mr. Snook served for a year as the town clerk, and for a like period as the treasurer of his school district. Fraternally he is affiliated with the M. W. A. and I. O. O. F. lodges of Luverne.

DELL O. NORTON (1891) is a prosperous and extensive farmer and stock raiser of Luverne township. He was born in Iowa county, Iowa, July 27, 1866. The Norton family is of Irish descent whose residence in America has been of long duration. Albert Norton, the father of our subject, was a native of New York state and died in Iowa April 5, 1892, at the age of fifty-five years. His mother, Nancy (Sweezy) Norton, also a native of New York, resides in Marengo, Iowa. The Sweezy family is of German origin.

Dell O. Norton was reared on his father's farm in Iowa county, was educated in the rural schools, and remained there until after his twenty-fifth birthday. Leaving home in 1891, he came to Rock county in company with his brother Ray. Their total

capital on reaching the county was seventy-five dollars in cash and six head of horses, which they drove up from Iowa. For the first ten years the brothers farmed in partnership. The first four years they rented 240 acres of David Weise, in Kanaranzi township, and then for two years were on a place in Martin township a few miles northwest of Steen. The next three years they were located on the Ira Crawford stock farm, west of Beaver Creek. In 1898 the brothers commenced buying land. The first purchase was eighty acres of section 5, Beaver Creek township, and soon after they bought the other eighty of the same quarter. In 1899 they came into possession of a quarter section on section 17, Beaver Creek township.

In 1901 Dell and Ray Norton dissolved partnership and the former moved on to the land on section 17, while the brother located on the other farm which they had bought. In 1903 our subject traded the Beaver Creek farm for his present one of 240 acres, including the northwest quarter of section 7, Luverne township. This has been improved and is now one of the best in the precinct. In addition to his own land Mr. Norton rents and farms 240 acres, and his farming is on an extensive scale. He raises considerable stock and keeps in his herd, on an average, seventy sheep, sixty-eight cattle, 115 hogs and twenty-two horses. During the fall of 1909 he erected a large and commodious barn on his place. He is the road overseer for his district.

At Koszta, Iowa county, Iowa, on April 22, 1890, Mr. Norton was married to Annie V. Anderson, the daughter of Peter and Louisa Anderson. Mrs. Norton's father is deceased, but her mother resides at Belle Plaine, Iowa. On a farm near that city Mrs. Norton was born November 17, 1876. Mr. and Mrs. Norton are the parents of four children: Floyd, born November 29, 1892; Harvey, born March 30, 1895; Gladys, born February 16, 1898; Vera, born March 5, 1901.

EMIL A. SPRIESTERSBACH (1879) is a substantial agriculturist of Clinton township who has for more than thirty years been prominently identified with Rock county's prosperity. His parents, Adam and

Christina (Potenus) Spriestersbach, came from Germany to America in 1850. After a residence of two years in Ohio, they came as pioneers to Minnesota.

In Shakopee, Scott county, Emil A. Spriestersbach was born April 8, 1855. Later he moved with his parents to Red Wing and then to Sauk Center, in both of which places his schooling was obtained. Our subject dates his residence in Rock county from 1879. He hired out to different farmers for five years, at the end of which time he bought the south half of the southeast quarter of section 36, Beaver Creek township. He later became the owner of the north half of the same quarter and made many substantial improvements on the place.

In February, 1910, Mr. Spriestersbach sold his holdings on section 36 and bought the northwest quarter of section 6, Clinton township, upon which he moved in the spring of 1911. He served on the school board of his district five years. He is a member of the Evangelical church and the M. B. A. lodge.

SAMUEL TODD (1900) is the proprietor of a hardware store and meat market in the village of Beaver Creek, where he has resided the past eleven years. He is a native of Illinois and was born in Ford county November 21, 1863. His parents, Jesse and Rosanna (Hagen) Todd, were natives of Indiana but became early settlers of Ford county, Illinois, where they died. Samuel attended the district schools and assisted on the home farm in Illinois until he was twenty-three years of age.

At that age Mr. Todd came west. He located at Worthington, Minnesota, where for two and one-half years he engaged in farm labor and served as a hotel clerk. He then went to the state of Washington, where he bought and conducted a forty-two acre fruit farm and also rented and worked another quarter section. Upon retiring at the end of two years, he became a clerk in a general store at Clearbrook, Washington, for a time and then returned to his Illinois home, where he remained until 1900, the date of his settlement in Rock county. He farmed in company with his brother in Martin township until the

fall of 1902, when he engaged in the meat market and restaurant business in Beaver Creek. During part of the time he has been in business in Beaver Creek Mr. Todd has also engaged in the furniture and general merchandise business, but he now confines his attention exclusively to the hardware and meat market business.

The subject of this review owns a farm of 120 acres near Beaver Creek, and in connection with his other business interests he conducts the farm, making a specialty of stock feeding. He also has village property. When he bought the S. U. Tjaden stock of hardware in April, 1910, he also bought the building which housed the business. He owns the building occupied by the office of the Beaver Creek Banner and a fine residence. In recent years also he bought the Shell & Smith village property, consisting of 127 lots, and he still owns sixty of them. Mr. Todd is a public spirited man and has done much toward the upbuilding of Beaver Creek.

Mr. Todd was married in Martin township October 24, 1901, to Helen M. Nuffer, a native of Lyon county, Iowa, and a daughter of the late Fred Nuffer, of Hills. Mr. and Mrs. Todd are the parents of the following named children: Lena, Maud, Ethel and Laura. Mr. Todd has served as a member of the village council. He is a member of the Methodist church and of the A. O. U. W. lodge.

EMIL M. CHRISTIANSON (1906) is a member of the progressive and successful firm of Christianson Bros., furniture dealers at Hills. The three brothers who are associated in this business are all young men of integrity and tact, who have demonstrated that success is possible to the furniture dealer in a small town. Theirs is a model store and their business has grown and extended despite the predictions of sincere friends that they would fail in six months.

Emil is one in a family of seven children, the son of A. C. and Cecelia Christianson, natives of Norway who came to the United States in 1867 and located in Rushford, Minnesota, in the early seventies. They later lived in Jackson and Nobles counties, Mrs. Christianson dying

in the latter location in 1899. A. C. Christianson at the age of seventy-nine resides with his son at Hills.

Our subject was born in Jackson county, Minnesota, May 10, 1877. While an infant he moved with his parents to Nobles county, where the family resided for ten years, and then returned to Jackson county. Emil lived on the home farm with his parents until arriving of age. Going to Jackson village, he learned the tinner's trade in the store of Gillespie & Sons and remained with that firm for two years. After working at his trade for a few months in Worthington, he returned to Jackson and was similarly employed for another year. Then after completing a course in the Mankato Commercial college, he went to Wilmont and clerked in a furniture and hardware store for nearly three years. On resigning he went to Minneapolis to learn embalming, after which, in 1904, he located at Tracy, Minnesota, where he was manager of a leading furniture store for a number of years. In 1906 together with his brothers, Nels and Sivert, he established the present prosperous business in Hills. In 1909 the firm erected its own commodious building, a structure 25x80 feet. Emil is the possessor of a large and well ordered library, is a persistent reader of literature helpful to the conduct of his business, and to this he attributes in large measure his success.

Mr. Christianson was married at Adrian, Minnesota, June 25, 1902, to Maud J. Stevenson, a native of Iowa and a daughter of James and Martha Stevenson. To Mr. and Mrs. Christianson have been born three children, Helen, Edna and Ernest. They are members of the Presbyterian church.

SAMUEL C. REA (1892) is a Luverne attorney and ex-county attorney of Rock county, having made his home in Luverne for the past nineteen years. Mr. Rea is a native of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, and was born September 2, 1853, the son of John and Hannah B. (Laughlin) Rea. The former was born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, the latter in Ireland, having come to the United States when an infant. The father died in Pittsburg, the mother in New Orleans.

Samuel Rea received his primary education in the public schools of Pittsburg and then entered Princeton college, from which institution he was graduated with the class of 1875. Thereafter he read law at Pittsburg in the office of Hampton & Dalzell and was admitted to the bar in December, 1878. In 1885 Mr. Rea came west and located in Jackson, Minnesota, where he engaged in the real estate business for a number of years. During four years of his residence in Jackson, Mr. Rea served as court commissioner of Jackson county. He moved to Worthington in February, 1891, and practiced law in the office of George W. Wilson until June, 1892. At that time he moved to Luverne and soon afterward formed a partnership in the law business with L. S. Nelson, the partnership continuing until 1895. Since that date Mr. Rea has been engaged in practice alone. He was elected county attorney of Rock county in 1896 and served four years in that capacity. Mr. Rea is a thirty-second degree Mason and a member of the M. W. A. lodge.

At Geneseo, Illinois, on July 28, 1898, Mr. Rea was united in marriage to Cora W. Woodruff, a native of that place and a daughter of L. E. Woodruff, now a resident of Luverne. To Mr. and Mrs. Rea have been born two daughters: Dorothy, born September 12, 1899; Marianne, born September 14, 1906.

HENRY GIESE (1890) is one of the progressive agriculturists of Springwater township whose finely improved farm is located on the northeast quarter of section 21. His large, attractive barn, erected in 1910 at a cost of \$1300, has few equals in the precinct.

The parents of our subject were Fred and Sophia (Segener) Giese. Henry was born in the town of Hohenfelder, Holstein, Germany, October 30, 1863, and when a boy worked in a mill in his native town. At the age of nineteen he left the fatherland and journeyed to America. He went to Blainstown, Iowa, near which place he worked out for awhile, then rented land and commenced farming. He settled on his present Rock county farm in 1890 and became the owner of the place eight years

later. For nine years Mr. Giese was a school director and at present he is a member of the township board. He belongs to the German Lutheran church and the M. W. A. lodge.

On the first day of November, 1886, in Benton county, Iowa, our subject was wedded to Lena Albers, who was born February 8, 1863, the daughter of John and Margaretta (Mceller) Albers, both native Germans. Mr. and Mrs. Giese are the parents of two children: Matilda S., born May 7, 1888, and Dora M., born March 16, 1892.

HANS NELSON KJERGAARD (1885). It would be hard to find a busier man in Rock county than Hans Kjergaard, who has the distinction of being the one and only business man in the little town of Bruce. His interests are many and varied—storekeeper, grain buyer, postmaster, depot agent and express agent.

Our subject is a Dane by birth, his native place being Heilsminder, near Kolding, where he was born June 2, 1868. His father, Nels Kjergaard, lives at Tyler, Minnesota. His mother, Christina (Skovgaard) Kjergaard, passed away in Rock county in April, 1896. In Denmark Hans lived until the spring of the year 1885. After his school days he worked for a number of years in a brick yard. A short time after his confirmation he took to the sea and for two summers shipped before the mast. Mr. Kjergaard spent the first summer after his arrival in America at Greenleaf, Kansas. In November of the year of his arrival, 1885, he came to Rock county and located in Martin township. For several years thereafter he was variously employed, at farm labor, threshing, breaking land and on the railroad. During the spring of 1889 he commenced business in Bruce, one year after its founding. His first stock of goods, valued at from fifty to sixty dollars, was housed in a small building for which he had traded a team of horses. The same year he was appointed postmaster and has served in that capacity since. The two elevators located in Bruce are now the property of Mr. Kjergaard. He has been the station agent since 1907.

At Luverne, on October 27, 1894, Mr.

Kjergaard was wedded to Annie Kirkhus, a native of Norway who came to this country in 1892. They are the parents of three children, Hulda, Albert and Alma. For ten years Mr. Kjergaard held the office of clerk of school district No. 35, and for the past four years has been one of the directors of the same. He served as justice of peace for a term of two years. He belongs to the United Lutheran church of Hills.

ANANIAS G. SOLEM (1886) is one of the well known residents of Kenneth and is the proprietor of the cream station at that place. He is a native of Norway, where he was born September 13, 1856. He received a common school education in his native land and at the age of sixteen began the battle of life for himself. He followed various occupations until twenty-two years of age, when he enlisted in the army and served three years. On being discharged from the service, he was employed as a fisherman along the bleak coasts of Iceland until 1885, the date of his arrival in America.

The first year he worked in the vicinity of Livermore, Iowa, then came to Rock county, where for a few years he was employed at farm labor and in the brick yard at Luverne. Beginning work on the section for the Rock Island road, in a year and a half he was promoted to foreman with headquarters at Luverne, and later at Toronto, South Dakota, where he remained for ten years. On quitting the position, he returned to Rock county and for several months was employed with a crew in the construction of the new road then being built from Wilmont to Hardwick. In 1900 Mr. Solem took up his residence in Kenneth. For three years he was again section foreman, but at the end of that time was forced to give up the position because of rheumatism, with which he was a sufferer. During the month of October, 1907, he established a cream station in Kenneth and has since been engaged in the business of buying and shipping cream.

Ananias Solem is the son of Goodman and Martha (Olson) Solem, both deceased. They had five children, all of whom are

dead except the subject of this sketch. He was married in Luverne on July 27, 1887, to Magretha Olson, a native of Norway, where she was born June 9, 1858. She came to the United States in 1887. They have no children of their own, but have an adopted daughter, Helen, who is a student in the Lutheran normal school at Sioux Falls. She was born October 5, 1893.

Mr. Solem is a member of the Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran church, of which he is the secretary and of which for a number of years he was treasurer.

OLE L. TOSTENRUD (1885) is one of the up-to-date farmers of Kanaranzi township, one who has reaped the fruits of prosperity as the righteous reward of honest and persistent toil. His farm on the northwest quarter of section 23, with its modern dwelling and expansive barns, is one that invites attention as the home of a man whose labors have been blessed with success.

Ole Tostenrud is a Norwegian by birth, and in the land of the midnight sun, at Sigdal, he was born on July 22, 1856. His parents, Lars and Engebor (Velstad) Tostenrud, are both buried at Osage, Iowa, having died at the ages of seventy-seven and seventy-nine years, respectively. As a child of five, Ole undertook the journey to America with his father and mother. The family lived for the first eight years in this country near Decorah, Iowa, and there our subject acquired an education afforded by the district schools. In 1869 a move to Floyd county, in the same state, was made, and there Ole assisted on his father's farm until June, 1885.

During that month he arrived in Rock county and bought the southeast quarter of section 15, Kanaranzi township. For two consecutive years he worked that place during the crop season, returning to Osage, Iowa, to spend the winters. In 1887 he brought his family to Minnesota and resided on a farm in Nobles county one year. It was during that winter, on the twelfth day of January, that a terrible blizzard raged in which Mr. Tostenrud's and his neighbors' loss of stock was considerable.

In the fall of 1888 the family moved to the Kanaranzi township farm, which he

had retained in his possession. He sold the farm on section 15 soon after, however, and bought his present place. During the spring of 1889, while improvements were being made on the new farm, the family lived in the village of Ellsworth. In addition to his Rock county real estate, Mr. Tostenrud owns a quarter section of fine land near Oakes, North Dakota.

June 23, 1883, is the date of Mr. Tostenrud's marriage at Osage, Iowa, to Mary Isaacs, the daughter of Robert and Sonova (Herre) Isaacs, natives of Norway. To these parents the following nine children have been born: Ralph L., Stella M., Oswald M., Mabel C., Harry E., Florence E., Arthur L., Alvin C. and Edna M. N. The family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and Mr. Tostenrud holds membership in the M. W. A. He served as director of school district No. 62 for eighteen years and for ten years was a member of the town board. He also served as town treasurer three years.

MARCUS C. NELSON (1886) is one of the substantial and progressive agriculturists and a large stock raiser of Rose Dell township. He is the owner of 640 acres of productive soil in that precinct. Of this, 240 acres are located on section 21, a like amount on section 17, and 160 acres on section 20, all thoroughly improved land. The farm home is situated on the northwest quarter of section 21.

Marcus was born on a small farm in Ibestad, Norway, August 11, 1860, the son of Christopher and Terena Nelson. He received the training of the elementary schools of his native land, which he left at the age of twenty-one years to go to the United States. He made Flandreau, South Dakota, his destination, and near that town he worked on a farm during the summer and attended school in winter in order to increase his command of the English language. For a year he clerked in a store at Pallisades, South Dakota, and then joined a construction crew on the Great Northern railway building into Jasper. On arriving at that point, in 1886, he determined to locate, and, in partnership with L. H. Gilbertson, he established the general

mercantile business of Gilbertson & Nelson.

After a business career of nearly ten years, Mr. Nelson became a farmer, locating on his present place, the northwest quarter of section 21, Rose Dell, which he had come into possession of some few years previous. After working the place for three years, he rented out the farm and in 1904 journeyed back to his old home in Norway. He was absent on the trip a full year, and on his return he established a residence in Jasper, which was maintained until 1907, when he once more engaged actively in agricultural pursuits and moved back to his own farm. Mr. Nelson is the president of the Farmers Co-operative Mercantile company of Jasper, is vice president and director of the Farmers State Bank of Jasper, and is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator company of the same place.

In Moody county, South Dakota, on September 9, 1892, our subject was joined in marriage to Carrie Ening, a native of Norway, and a resident of the United States since 1885. She is the daughter of Hans and Aagot Ening, who have always lived in Norway. These parents have one son, Clarence H., born on September 9, 1901. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

MARK SWEDBERG (1880), postmaster of Luverne, has spent over thirty years of his life in that city. He was born in Sweden November 18, 1855, the son of Carl J. and Maria C. (Lekberg) Swedberg. The father came to America in 1867 and two years later the rest of the family came over. They lived in Chicago until coming to Minnesota in 1879, settling in the little village of Luverne in 1880. Carl J. Swedberg died in that city in 1900; his wife died there in 1903.

Mark Swedberg is one of a family of nine children, of whom only three are living, the other two being Mrs. E. O. Krook, of Clinton, Minnesota, and Mrs. John Carlson, of Magnolia. He received his early education in his native country. Coming to the United States at the age of thirteen years, he lived with his parents in Chicago and there completed his education in the

English schools. In the same city he learned the jeweler's trade and worked at it there until locating in Luverne in 1880.

Upon his arrival in Luverne Mr. Swedberg engaged in the jewelry business, conducting a store until 1899, when he sold out. He received the appointment of postmaster of Luverne under the administration of President McKinley in 1898, and has ever since held the office. His wife is deputy postmaster. For several terms Mr. Swedberg served as city treasurer. He is a member of the Masonic and Knights of Pythias lodges.

Mr. Swedberg was married in Luverne August 31, 1885, to Lizzie C. Rieber, who was born in Tomah, Wisconsin, August 21, 1860. She is the daughter of the late Bonaparte Rieber and Caroline (Frank) Rieber. Her parents were born in Germany, came to America when children and were married at Edgerton, Wisconsin. They moved to Tomah, Wisconsin, in 1854 and settled among the Indians, being the first white settlers in that part of the state. Mr. Rieber died there in October, 1906, aged seventy-six years. Mrs. Rieber still lives on the old homestead and is seventy-four years old. The following named four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Swedberg: Luella, Roy, Hulda and Mabel. The three oldest are students at the Minnesota state university. One son, Carl, died in infancy.

JOHN W. STAMMAN (1893) is one of the progressive and substantial farmers of Denver township and is the present chairman of the township board of supervisors. He is well known as a large breeder of Belgian horses and Poland China hogs.

The subject of this biography was born in Bureau county, Illinois, March 8, 1867. He was eight years of age when the family moved to Tama county, Iowa, and there he was educated in the district schools and grew to manhood. He commenced his agricultural career in 1891, renting Tama county land. Two years later, in 1893, he became identified with the interests of Rock county. Denver township has been his one residence in the county. Mr. Stamman first rented the southwest quarter of section 18, and a year

later bought his present home farm, the southeast quarter of section 8. Since then he has added by purchase the northeast quarter of section 8 and the northwest quarter of section 17, a total of 480 acres of choice and finely improved land.

Mr. Stamman was married in Tama county, Iowa, on February 17, 1891, to Helena Krudfeldt, who was born in Germany June 8, 1872, and came to America nine years later with her parents, Henry and Margretta (Heckt) Krudfeldt. The following four children have been born to this union: Henry P., born December 21, 1891; Louis, born October 8, 1893; Lillie, born December 28, 1896; and Dora, born March 2, 1901.

Our subject is the clerk of school district No. 51. He owns stock in the Farmers Elevator company of Hardwick, the South Dakota Rural Telephone company, and the Independent Harvester company of Plano, Illinois. In 1911 Mr. Stamman bought three acres of land and a nice home in the village of Hardwick, where he now makes his home. He has rented his land and retired from active work.

IRA M. CADY (1883). For more than a quarter of a century the gentleman whose name heads this sketch has been a useful citizen of Rock county, ever zealous in the cause of its advancement. More particularly has he been an instrumental agent and a guiding force in the promotion and betterment of his home town of Magnolia. He has been the editor of the Magnolia Advance since it came into being eighteen years ago.

Ira M. Cady is a native New Yorker and was born in Wayne county the first day of June, 1853. His parents, W. H. and Rachel E. (Rapalee) Cady, were also born in New York. Both father and mother are buried at Avoca, New York, having died at the ages of seventy and sixty-seven years, respectively. There were six children in the Cady family, of which our subject was fourth in point of age. Two daughters, Mrs. Helen Randolph, of Bakersville, Connecticut, and Mrs. William Vanda of Cohocton, New York, are the only children now living beside Ira.

For the first eighteen years of his life Mr. Cady was a resident of the county of his birth. He received a common school education and having journalistic aspirations at an early age, he corresponded for the local papers and worked around the printing offices. In 1871 he started west and located in Lansing, Michigan, where for a time he clerked in stores and did newspaper work. He reported the proceedings of the state legislature as a special correspondent to some of the state papers. His health failed him while there and he returned to New York, and at Brockport he corresponded for the Elmira Telegram.

In 1883 Mr. Cady came to Minnesota, locating for a year and a half at Pipestone, where he was employed as a field agent by Close Bros. & Co., who were engaged in the real estate business. From there he went to Magnolia, which has since been his home. For the first seven years he engaged in farming in Magnolia township. In 1893 he settled in the village and established the Advance, whose destiny he has guided continuously since. Mr. Cady has been honored time and again by elections to offices of trust. For twenty-four years he has efficiently served as a justice of the peace, and for the past sixteen years he has been a valued member of the Magnolia school board. He was clerk of Magnolia township for a decade and is now serving his third term as village recorder. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen.

Our subject was married in Luverne on March 22, 1887, to Mary E. Anderson, a native of White Pigeon, Michigan, where she was born November 25, 1863. They are the parents of three children: Elma A., born June 24, 1889; Alfonso B., born May 12, 1891; and Medora E., born April 5, 1895.

Magnolia's first paper, the Citizen, established by Mr. Cady on March 16, 1893, had a lease of life of sixteen weeks. It was printed from the old Guardian office at Adrian. The Magnolia Advance, its successor, made its initial appearance June 16, 1893, printed in the Magnolia office by Cady & Green, publishers. G. E. Green, now a photographer at Luverne, continued a partner in the enterprise until 1895,

when he disposed of his interest to Mr. Cady, who has been the faithful scribe up to date. The paper is now entering its eighteenth year. It was started as an independent organ but has ever gone on record in support of the republican national ticket, the party to which the editor most naturally inclines. The Advance was and ever has been a seven column quarto and is issued regularly every Friday.

HERMAN THOMTE (1877), a merchant of Kenneth, was one of the very first business men to locate in that town. He is a native of Allamakee county, Iowa, and was born August 10, 1872. He is the son of the well-known pioneers of Rock county, Hans and Karee (Hanson) Thomte. Hans Thomte is now a leading tailor of Luverne, a sketch of his life appearing elsewhere in this volume.

Herman passed the first five years of his life in the county of his birth, accompanying his parents to Rock county in 1877 and settling in Vienna township, the northwest quarter of section 14 of which the father filed upon as a homestead claim. After seven or eight years our subject moved to Luverne, remained four years, and then returned to manage the home farm. He was a boy of fifteen at that time, but his capabilities were those of the most mature man, and for twelve years he successfully conducted the place, living during the entire time in the "bliss of bachelorhood." In 1899 Mr. Thomte retired from farming and moved to Kenneth the spring following the founding of the town. He built a livery barn and hotel, which he conducted alternately for about a year and a half.

He traded his property for a stock of goods at Hatfield, where he lived eighteen months. His next move was to Edgerton and from there to Chandler, where he engaged in business for a year. He next went to Lismore to accept a position as manager of the Alberding & Son store. The firm opening a store at Kenneth, Mr. Thomte was invited to assume the management of the business and since then his home has been in Kenneth, the scene of the commencement of his business career.

Mr. Thomte was married in Luverne on February 20, 1895, to Lena Jacobson, a native of Norway, born June 5, 1877. She came to the United States when two years old and settled with her parents in Allamakee county, Iowa, where she lived until the year of her marriage. One child, Clarinda, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Thomte, February 22, 1897.

FENTON A. LEICHER (1891). One of the institutions of which the people of Luverne are proud is the Luverne Automobile company, makers of the popular "Luverne" car, and of this company Fenton A. Leicher is the manager.

Our subject was born in Logansville, Wisconsin, March 20, 1873. He is the son of A. Leicher and Mariette (Kendall) Leicher, natives of Germany and New York state, respectively. The father came to America when ten years of age and settled at Neosho, Wisconsin, where he learned the carriage maker's trade and where he was married. Soon after the civil war he moved with his wife to Logansville, Sauk county, and in that town he lives today.

Fenton A. Leicher grew to young manhood in his native town, securing a common school education. He and his three brothers learned the carriage maker's trade under their father's instruction, our subject beginning work in the shop when thirteen years of age and serving a five years' apprenticeship. When eighteen years of age, in 1891, he left his home town and located in Luverne. There he entered the employ of W. F. Kendall, a carriage maker, and continued with him and his successor two years. Mr. Leicher then located in Trosky, where he engaged in the carriage making business one year. Returning to Luverne, Mr. Leicher and his brother, Edward L. Leicher, bought the carriage making shop of Elias Kreps, who had succeeded W. F. Kendall. This shop the brothers have ever since conducted, that branch of their business now being under the management of C. G. Larson.

In 1903 the brothers originated and manufactured their first automobile. This proved to be a success and for a few years they made cars and engaged in the

business in a small way, continually improving the cars. Local capital was interested and in 1906 there was organized the Luverne Automobile company, which took over the business of the brothers, the latter become managers. From the plant of the Luverne Automobile company are now turned out seventy-five cars annually. Mr. Leicher is secretary of the Luverne Commercial club and is a member of the fire department.

In Winfield, Wisconsin, on November 21, 1895, Mr. Leicher was united in marriage to Anna L. Krug, who was born in the town in which she was married August 8, 1874. She is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Krug, now residents of Reedsburg, Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Leicher have two children, Robert Fenton and Theodore Alfred.

PHILO HAWES (1867), deceased. Wonderful and unparalleled has been the development of Minnesota's richest agricultural county since that day in June, forty-four years ago, when Philo Hawes—the very earliest of Rock county's valiant band of pioneers—from the summit of the Blue mounds gazed in profound admiration at the scene which met his eye as he turned it in the four directions. With his eye he followed the course of the winding Rock into Iowa, its banks skirted with the only indication of timber in the vicinity. The rich expanse of prairie, here and there undulating into delightful billows of green, but for the most part one level tract of splendor, unbroken by a single evidence of human habitation or handicraft, was a view to rightly inspire the beholder. We know that it did prompt this intrepid frontiersman to exclaim in rapture to his sole companion at the time that he was not to be shaken in the belief that it was given to him to be the discoverer of the Garden of Eden. The memory of Philo Hawes, Rock county's first citizen, will never want for guardians to insure its perpetuation.

New York was the state which gave Mr. Hawes birth. He came to old New England stock, and his parents were Cyrus and Caroline (Cotter) Hawes, both natives of Connecticut. They established a

home at Danby, in Tompkins county, New York, where it was that Philo Hawes, on December 18, 1830, for the first time gazed upon the things of this earth. He was a lad in his twelfth year when the Hawes moved from the Empire state and wended their way westward to Wisconsin, living there several years before that territory was granted statehood. There our subject grew to manhood and in 1850 was married to Miss Malvina Hines.

Mr. Hawes was twenty-three years of age when he first settled in Minnesota. It was in the year 1853 that he located at Red Wing and established a stage route, which he operated successfully for a number of years between that point and Fari-bault, Zumbrota and other towns, which were few and far between in southern Minnesota. It was while engaged in this manner that Philo Hawes commenced the long and eventful career he was destined to pursue in the government mail service. His first contract, entered into in 1856, was to carry the mail from Red Wing to Blue Earth City. At the outbreak of the civil war he laid aside for a time all personal interests in his desire to aid in the preservation of the union. He was commissioned second lieutenant of company D, Eleventh Minnesota infantry, in which command he served throughout the war.

At the return of peace Mr. Hawes took up his residence in St. Paul, and it was not long before he was again a useful member of the government mail service. In 1867 he was the successful bidder for the contract to establish and maintain the proposed mail route from Blue Earth City, Minnesota, to Yankton, Dakota territory. While engaged in laying out this new route, our subject first set foot in the untempered territory of Rock county. He established a camp on the east side of Rock river near the mounds on the thirteenth day of June, 1867. He was so favorably impressed with the country and the many advantages it offered that he made up his mind then and there to establish a home for himself and family in the favored location. At that particular time he completed his work in hand and returned to Blue Earth.

On September 18 of the same year he

again visited Rock county with a few companions and three teams, prepared to build a stable, put up some hay and establish a station of the mail route. He selected a claim, but did not make an actual filing on the same until some months later. With his assistants Mr. Hawes put up a considerable quantity of hay during the season of 1867 and before he left constructed a dug-out, or "half cabin and half cave," in which he installed a German named John Lietze to hold the claim. Lietze remained there during the winter.

During the following spring, on March 25, 1868, Philo Hawes, accompanied by his family, arrived in the new country selected for a future home and established himself in the dug-out before mentioned, until a log house, 16 feet square, could be erected. This old log cabin, which was built on a hill near the site of the present Rock Island depot, and to which an addition was built in the fall of 1868 by Mr. Hawes and E. N. Darling, the next arrival, was for a number of years the one center for all local interests. Besides serving its purpose as a residence, it was several times converted into a school, a church, a "hall" for public meetings, a polling place, as well as the postoffice. At this early day the nearest neighbor was distant many miles. The little village of Jackson was the nearest trading point, and all lumber had to be hauled from Madelia, a distance of one hundred twenty-five miles.

The fame of the new Rock county was not long in spreading to the more thickly settled portions of the state and to the east, and it was but a matter of one or two years before other settlers, converted to the same view-point as the first one, came and established homes and laid the foundations for future prosperous settlements. It was in 1870 that Mr. Hawes set aside forty acres of his farm for a village plat and founded the village of Luverne, which was named after his oldest daughter, Eva Luverne Hawes.

The Luverne postoffice was established in the winter of 1868 and was located in the Hawes cabin, with Ed. McKenzie as postmaster. For a number of years following his settlement in Rock county Philo

Hawes continued to control the contract for carrying the mail on the route between Blue Earth City and Yankton, although various parties were entrusted with its fulfilment under his direction. In 1871 Mr. Hawes was commissioned postmaster of Luverne, an office he held for three years, being succeeded at the expiration of his term by his son, Charles O. Hawes. Immediately thereafter he entered upon the duties of route agent in government railway mail service, first being employed on the St. Paul road between St. Paul and Sioux City and later on the Worthington & Sioux Falls branch of the St. Paul & Sioux City, later the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha, railroad. A second time, in 1888, Philo Hawes was commissioned postmaster of Luverne, and his service continued until the commencement of Cleveland's second administration. During the years which then ensued until his death Mr. Hawes was actively engaged in the real estate and insurance business.

At the election of 1871 our subject was elected one of the three commissioners of Rock county and during the three years in such capacity he served as chairman of the board. Philo Hawes was a man of broad mind and never tired in his devotion to all worthy causes, and for his dauntless energy and his practical methods in the promotion of Rock county's and Luverne's every interest the residents of today have much to be grateful for. The hand of Death visited this first citizen on August 10, 1908. To Philo and Malvina (Hines) Hawes one son and two daughters were born: Charles O., of Luverne; Carrie M., of Luverne, and Eva Luverne, deceased. Mrs. Hawes has survived her husband and resides in Luverne.

PIERCE J. KNISS (1870), deceased. Of all the men who at one time or another have given of their energy and resources in an unlimited extent to promote the material advancement of the capital city of Rock county, none is more deserving or more willingly conceded a high place of honor in the regard of Luverne's people than is the late P. J. Kniss, who spent the best years of his life in the upbuilding of the town he selected in an early day for



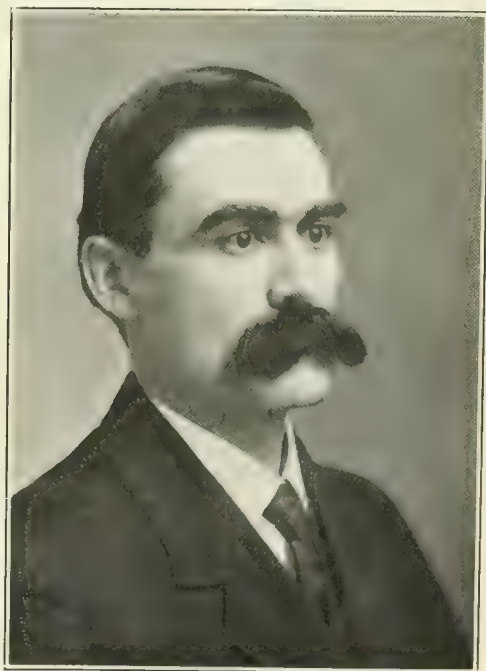
PHILO HAWES
The Founder of Luverne.



PIERCE J. KNISS
An Early Rock County Settler.



ALEXANDER WALKER
A Magnolia Business Man.



GEORGE ELBERT GREEN
A Luverne Photographer.

his home. He is rightly regarded as one of the founders of Luverne, for it was he who surveyed the townsite, and it was he who from the first year of its existence to his own untimely death watched with a parental pride over the needs of the growing young municipality, and in a great measure the city of today is indebted to Mr. Kniss for its prosperous condition.

A native Ohioan, the honored subject of this review was born at Old Defiance, Defiance county, on the sixteenth day of November, 1839. His father was Jacob Kniss, a Pennsylvanian by birth and a man who won prosperity as a leather merchant. The mother of our subject was Minerva (Taylor) Kniss, a native of Virginia. Pierce J. Kniss was left fatherless in early infancy. Until after his fifteenth birthday his home continued to be in the Buckeye state, which he left with the rest of the family soon after that event to become a resident of Wisconsin. He completed his education in the academy at Delton, in Sauk county, following which for a number of years he taught school in Wisconsin and in Illinois. Mr. Kniss early became a proficient surveyor and eventually devoted his entire attention to a career as civil engineer. He spent a number of years in the employ of the state in connection with the draining of the state swamp lands.

Mr. Kniss was numbered among the defenders of the country's honor in the great sectional struggle of the sixties. He enlisted as a private in company K, Fiftieth Wisconsin infantry, was subsequently promoted to sergeant, and at the completion of a sixteen months' service was mustered out as the regimental adjutant. His regiment was with the division which bivouacked on the Missouri river and which was finally ordered to Fort Rice, Dakota, to campaign against the hostile redskins. Sergeant Kniss was an active participant in more than one spirited engagement in the protection of the few settlers on the frontier who were subject to the ravages of the rebellious Indians.

It was in the month of June, 1870, that Mr. Kniss first set foot on Rock county soil. He selected land, and in the fall of the same year he surveyed the town plat of Luverne. But his beneficial operations

were not confined alone to the chosen site of the future town, but were made to embrace the whole county. He thoroughly covered every portion of the then unorganized territory and platted every quarter section, camping at night on the prairie wherever night chanced to overtake him, until the task was brought to a conclusion. Mr. Kniss was Rock county's first officially selected county surveyor. For a number of years in the early seventies he was largely engaged in railroad contracting, building seventy miles of the old St. Paul & Sioux City line of road and also fifty miles for the Milwaukee system.

In 1876 P. J. Kniss, in company with O. D. Brown, established a private banking house in Luverne. This institution prospered and eventually was incorporated as a state bank. Ten years after the commencement of his banking career Mr. Kniss was instrumental in the organization of the First National Bank of Luverne and was its president for a number of years. He was largely interested in the organization and support of many of Luverne's leading business and civic enterprises. In a political way he was selected for preferment on several occasions. Mr. Kniss was elected chairman of the board of county commissioners in 1884, an office he held for several terms. He served as president of the village council and for two terms represented the people of his district in the lower house of the state legislature.

Only a few months before he took up the work which Destiny had selected for him in Rock county, P. J. Kniss was married to Minerva Donaldson, of Linden, Wisconsin. Mrs. Kniss died in Pasadena, California, November 22, 1887. To this union were born three sons and three daughters, named Lillian M., Everett J., Ella M., Paul D., Ruth G. and Pierce W.

It was in the holiday season of the year 1896 that Luverne was plunged into mourning because of the passing away of her foremost citizen. On December nineteenth P. J. Kniss answered Death's call.

ALEXANDER WALKER (1893) has been the manager and treasurer of the Magnolia Farmers Elevator company since

its organization in 1893 and is an ex-county commissioner from the fifth district. He is one in a family of twelve children, six of whom are now living, and his parents were Robert and Annie (Allanack) Walker, who lived and died in Scotland. Of that country our subject is also a native, it being in Aberdeen shire that his nativity occurred February 24, 1852.

Alexander as a boy began to work on farms, and in agricultural pursuits he was engaged during his long residence in his native land. At the age of twenty-five years he was absent from home for a period of fourteen months, spending that time in Portugal as manager of a large estate owned by an English slate and marble quarry company. During the year 1885 he came to the United States and direct to Minnesota. For nine years he engaged in farming on section 29, Westside township, Nobles county. In 1893, at the solicitation of the organizers of the Magnolia Farmers Elevator company, he was induced to accept the management of the business, a position he has since ably filled.

Mr. Walker is a land owner and devotes considerable attention to the general oversight of his farm, the land being the north-east quarter of section 10, Magnolia township. He has been the president of the Magnolia State Bank since its founding. Mr. Walker has been a member of the Magnolia school board and of the village council for many years. He served two terms, during the years from 1900 to 1908, on the board of county commissioners. He belongs to the Presbyterian church and to the M. W. A. lodge.

Mr. Walker has been twice married. His first wife, Annie Wiseman Walker, died August 22, 1901. On November 11, 1903, in Magnolia township he was wedded to Minnie M. Dow, a daughter of Judge C. W. W. Dow, of Worthington. Mrs. Walker was born in Ransom township, Nobles county, on March 26, 1873.

The Magnolia Mercantile and Elevator company, organized in July, 1893, was the first co-operative elevator company established in the county and one of the first concerns of its kind in the state. The original stockholders were as follows: E. H. Holbert, A. H. Turner, E. L. Hartwell, T. E. Knowlton, Alexander Walker, J. H.

Sipes, F. A. Baker, A. C. Crawford, L. C. Long, J. G. McLeish, John Whalen, Thomas Kcalry, Francis Walker, Dennis Boyle, David Hileman, Jacob Michaelson, William Kleine, Michael Martin, F. L. Lindsay, A. O. Shelby, James Soutar, A. J. Calkins, Fred Kearney, Knute Miking, Theodore Minders, John Bourne, O. J. Baker, L. T. Engen, R. F. M. Smith, Joseph Mueller, O. W. Turner, Kittel Olson, Thomas Robinson, J. L. Calkins, Christ Johnson, F. M. Knowlton, J. A. Skyberg. The first board of directors was composed as follows: L. C. Long, Alexander Walker, T. Robinson, Thomas Knowlton, J. G. Whalen, F. A. Baker, A. H. Turner, Kittel Olson and A. C. Crawford.

The elevator owned by the company was newly erected and its successful management, under Mr. Walker, has brought the institution to the forefront as a model institution of its kind. It has gained the reputation of being one elevator that always has maintained its prices. The present officers are: President, A. H. Turner; vice president, J. H. Sipes, of Minneapolis; secretary, G. W. Turner; treasurer and manager, Alexander Walker. The board of directors consists of the following: A. H. Turner, J. H. Sipes, G. W. Turner, Alexander Walker, L. E. Wodruff, John McLeish, G. A. Lohr, James Soutar and Francis Walker.

GEORGE ELBERT GREEN (1885), a photographer of Luverne, is a native of Elizabeth, Illinois, where he was born September 14, 1867. He is the son of the late George Green and Frances (Mankey) Green. The former, who was a native of Racine, Wisconsin, died in Luverne June 2, 1910. The mother was born in Elizabeth, Illinois. Both parents were of English descent. Besides George of this sketch, there is an only daughter in the Green family, Mabel (Mrs. A. E. Parson), of Darlington, Wisconsin.

George E. Green, better known to his friends as Bert Green, was educated in the public schools of Elizabeth. At the age of eighteen, in 1885, he moved with his parents to Rock county and settled with them on a farm in Clinton township and for two years thereafter assisted his father with the work on the place. He

then went to Woodbine, Illinois, where for a year and a half he filled the position of night operator for the Chicago, Great Western railway. He returned to Rock county and to his father's farm, where he remained until 1890, when the family removed to Ashcreek. Bert clerked in the store established by his father in that village and for a time acted as manager.

Another change within the county was made when Mr. Green located in Magnolia. He was in the grocery business for a time; then with I. M. Cady he founded the Magnolia Advance, but disposed of his interest in the enterprise to Mr. Cady after a year and a half. He then engaged in the insurance business with Luverne as headquarters. In 1898 he organized the Pioneer's Life association and was its first supreme secretary. The next year he resigned and accepted the agency for the Northwestern Mutual Life of Milwaukee. For a year, commencing in 1902, he held a clerkship in the Beatrice (Nebraska) post-office, securing the position through civil service appointment. While there he bought an interest in a photograph gallery and became actively engaged in the work. It was in 1908 that he established a gallery in Hills, which he conducted until the fall of 1910, when he moved to Luverne and opened a gallery there. Mr. Green was the marshal from December, 1908, to June, 1910. He was also chief of the fire department there. He holds membership in the M. W. A. lodge.

Bert was married in Luverne on March 2, 1897, to Carrie Hayes Booth, who died March 24, 1898, at the age of twenty-seven years. One child, Luella F., was born to this union on March 3, 1898. Since her mother's death Luella has made her home with her grandparents.

J. H. ZENKER (1890) is the hardware merchant of Steen and one of its influential citizens. He is a German by birth, born in the province of Saxony December 19, 1850. His parents, F. A. and Magdalina (Koch) Zenker, are both deceased, the father dying in Steen in 1903, Mrs. Zenker going to her reward five years before, in Germany.

J. H. Zenker of this review made his

home in the fatherland until a little less than thirty-one years of age. When a boy of fourteen he commenced learning the cabinet maker's trade from his father, who was a master in that line. Our subject became and is today an expert in his chosen calling, which he worked at continuously in the old country until coming to America in 1881. He located in Grundy county, Iowa, and for nine years was engaged in the carpentering and contracting business.

In 1890 his work brought him to Rock county. He had taken the contract for the erection of four farm houses in Clinton township, and, having become charmed with the little town of Steen, decided to settle there and make it his home. With just capital enough to invest in two cars of lumber, he set up in the lumber business. There was a period of hard times for a while, because of limited finances, but backed by a good credit and persevering endeavor, he soon placed his business on a paying basis and commenced treading the road to prosperity. At the end of eight and one-half years, when he sold his yard—the first established in Steen—to the Edmonds company, he was doing an annual business of \$6000.

For the next five years Mr. Zenker engaged in carpentering and contracting in and around Steen. In 1901, with his son, Erwin, he bought the hardware store of Chris C. Berg, the new firm becoming known as J. H. Zenker & Son. Three years later the father bought his son's interest in the business but still conducts it under the old name. That Mr. Zenker has prospered since landing in America with a total capital of eight dollars is evidenced by his property holdings. Besides owning a substantial dwelling in the town of Steen he is the possessor of 240 acres of land in Iowa, a quarter section in Martin township, Rock county, and another quarter in Chippewa county, this state. During the years 1902 and 1903 he served as treasurer of Clinton township.

While still living in Germany, on the last day of October, 1880, Mr. Zenker was married to Janna Buss, born May 27, 1849, the daughter of Peter and Gretje Buss. The father died some years ago in Grundy county, Iowa, but the mother still makes her home with Mrs. Zenker. The family

are members of the German Lutheran church of Steen.

The eldest son of Mr Zenker is Erwin, who was born in Germany February 28, 1881. He came with his parents to America the same year. His education in the village school at Steen was supplemented by a two years' business course in Highland Park college, Des Moines, Iowa. When not yet twenty years of age he bought an interest in the Berg hardware store at Steen, which he conducted until selling to his father in 1904. During the next year and a half he was variously employed in different states of the south and west. On his return to Steen he engaged in farming, his present occupation. He works his father's Lyon county farm and is the owner of land in Minor county, South Dakota. Erwin Zenker married Emelie Butjer on March 14, 1905. They have one child, Ella, born September 22, 1906.

THOMAS J. COLBY (1873), a substantial farmer of Martin township, was a lad of seven years when he first identified himself with the interests of Rock county, and his residence here from that time to the present has been a continuous one. He was born in Clear Lake, Iowa, when that town was still in its infancy, on July 12, 1866. His parents, Erick Sigdals Prestigjeld and Helena (Thorson) Colby, were born in Stavanger, Norway. Erick Colby came to this country at the age of twelve years and first located near Madison, Wisconsin, later moving to Clear Lake, Iowa, and then to Rock county. He died a number of years ago, but his wife is still living.

Thomas accompanied his parents in their removal to Rock county in the pioneer days of 1873. The elder Mr. Colby filed timber and homestead claims to the north half of section 10, Martin township. On that farm our subject made his home and assisted in the management until arriving at the age of twenty-three. The young man then bought part of his present farm on section 28 and commenced the labors which have since been crowned with success. In all he owns and farms a total of 185 acres, all finely improved. His farm home, erected in 1907, is one of the most elegant in the township and is arranged

with all modern equipment. Mr. Colby raises considerable stock. He owns stock in the Co-operative Creamery and Farmers Elevator companies of Hills. With his family he belongs to the United Norwegian Lutheran church of that village.

The marriage of Mr. Colby to Ella Twange was solemnized in Hills on the third day of April, 1896. Mrs. Colby was born December 28, 1875, near Inwood, Lyon county, Iowa, and is the daughter of H. A. and Enga Twange, residents of Hills. They have the following children: Effie Henrietta, born December 28, 1897; Helen Irene, born June 14, 1901; Thelma Dorethy, born March 22, 1903; Alice Geneiva, born August 22, 1906; and Inga Juliet, born May 18, 1908.

AMABLE O. MOREAUX (1878), editor and publisher of the Rock County Herald, has spent almost his entire life in Rock county. He was born in the village of Heron Lake, Jackson county, Minnesota, December 28, 1874. Two years after his birth the family moved to Winnebago City, resided there a few months, in Mankato a few months, and in January, 1878, located in the little village of Beaver Creek.

In November, 1878, the family moved to Luverne, where the subject of this biography has since continuously resided excepting two years (1886 to 1888), when the family lived at Rushmore. Amable was educated in the Luverne public schools. During the time he was securing his education he spent the summer months working on farms in the vicinity of Luverne. In October, 1892, he entered the office of the Rock County Herald, then owned by H. J. Miller, and learned the printer's trade—and he has been connected with that paper ever since.

For four years Mr. Moreaux was forman of the office, and for several years prior to 1907 he was city editor. In the year last mentioned Mr. Miller retired from active management of the Herald owing to ill health, whereupon Mr. Moreaux became the manager. He conducted the paper for Mr. Miller until the latter's death in May, 1909, and since then he has published and edited the paper for Mr. Mil-

ler's estate. Under his management the Herald has maintained the high standing it acquired under Mr. Miller's direction and today ranks as one of the leading country journals of Minnesota.

Mr. Moreaux is president of the Second Congressional District Editorial association. He is a member of Modern Woodmen lodge of Luverne and of the Elks of Sioux Falls.

The subject of this biography is the son of two pioneer residents of southwestern Minnesota. His father was Isadore A. Moreaux, who was born in New Jersey August 11, 1844. He became a resident of Wisconsin early in life and from that state enlisted in the union army at the time of the war of the rebellion. He enlisted at Madison on August 23, 1862, in company G, Sixth Wisconsin infantry, and was later transferred to company D, of the same regiment. He was discharged at Arlington, Virginia, June 6, 1865. After the war I. A. Moreaux returned to Wisconsin and in April, 1871, became a resident of Jackson county, Minnesota, removing to Rock county in 1878. He died at Chicago under an operation September 1, 1892.

The mother of our subject was Anna M. Tweeton. She was born in Norway June 30, 1854, came to the United States at the age of nine years and located in Dane county, Wisconsin. In 1871 the family located in Jackson county, Minnesota, where she was married to Mr. Moreaux July 17, 1872. Mrs. Moreaux was married to Nels B. Staff November 7, 1895, and now resides in Luverne.

In the Moreaux family are four children, those besides A. O. being Emaleon L. (Mrs. M. H. Voelz), of Luverne; Augustus T., of Chicago; and Charles H., city editor of the Rock County Herald. Three children died in infancy.

GEORGE W. SHURR (1875) is a Rock county product and was born, reared and now lives on the old homestead filed upon by his father in the pioneer days of the county's history. He is the son of J. B. and Hattie (Cackett) Shurr, now residents of Sioux Falls. The elder Mr. Shurr was among the very first settlers of Kanaranzi township, locating his homestead on the

southwest quarter of section 34, of that precinct.

George of this sketch was born on the farm mentioned on the fifth day of January, 1875. In the district school near by he mastered the subjects of the curriculum. At the call for volunteers in 1898, he was one of the first to respond. On July 2 he enlisted in company G, of the Fifteenth Minnesota regiment. The company was first encamped at St. Paul, later at Camp Meade, Pennsylvania, and was discharged March 27, 1899, at Camp McKenzie, Georgia.

After the discharge Mr. Shurr returned home and took up farming, renting his father's place. For two years, from 1901 to December, 1903, he made his home in Bottineau county, North Dakota. There he filed upon a claim and secured title to the land. The land cost him \$1.25 per acre, and in 1905 he sold the farm at a handsome profit. In 1907 he bought the home farm from his father and has since conducted it. It is known as the Lone Tree farm, the name having been suggested by the presence of a single tall tree on the line between sections 33 and 34, very near to the border line of the state.

At Ellsworth, on January 5, 1904, Mr. Shurr was married to Daisy Walker, a daughter of James Walker, an early settler of Nobles county and for several years its auditor. They have one living child, Harriet M., born March 9, 1910. A son Clifford died on August 21, 1906, at the age of eighteen months. Mr. and Mrs. Shurr are members of the Congregational church.

LEWIS ARNESON (1876) is one of the pioneer settlers of Beaver Creek township and has resided on the farm he now conducts since he was eight years of age. He owns the northeast quarter of section 1, range 47, one of the finely improved farms of the precinct. As a stock raiser he has met with abundant success.

Lewis is a native of Norway and was born near the city of Bergen on June 16, 1868, the son of Lars and Anna (Borson) Arneson, both deceased. The father died February 20, 1910, his faithful wife having been called by the grim reaper September 17, 1908. As a year old infant our subject crossed the broad Atlantic with his parents

and made settlement in the new world. The family lived in Fillmore county, Minnesota, previous to the establishment of a residence in Rock county.

The family drove overland in an ox team conveyance and arrived in the land of promise in the month of June, 1876. Lars Arneson at once homesteaded the land described above. His son Lewis was educated in the district schools and in 1892 commenced farming for himself on the home place, of which several years later he became the owner. Mr. Arneson is a stockholder in two farmers elevators, the one at Beaver Creek and at Booge, South Dakota.

On July 20, 1894, in Beaver Creek township, our subject was married to Anna Reinsaas, who was born in Norway February 3, 1874, and came to the United States at the age of eighteen years. To Mr. and Mrs. Arneson have been born the following three sons and two daughters: Arthur, born August 23, 1895; Oscar, born July 28, 1898; Luella, born May 27, 1901; Alice, born September 21, 1905; George, born March 11, 1911. The family are members of the Synod Norwegien Lutheran church of Beaver Creek.

MARTINUS ENGBRETSON (1881) is the cashier of the Farmers State Bank of Hills and is interested in two of the active and prosperous real estate agencies in Rock and Pipestone counties. His birth occurred October 2, 1881, on the old farm on section 35, Martin township, homesteaded by his father, Lars Engbretson, in the early seventies. The pioneer Rock county settlers, Lars and Martha (Hanson) Engbretson, natives of Norway, and the parents of our subject, are now esteemed and respected residents of Hills. They are the parents of seven living children, who besides Martinus, are Hans, of Walworth county, South Dakota; Isabelle (Mrs. W. A. Hill), of Sioux City; Emma (Mrs. A. G. Krogness), of Chicago; Clara (Mrs. John Johnson), of Minnehaha county, South Dakota; Edward, of Aberdeen, South Dakota; and Carl L., of Jasper.

Martinus lived on the home farm and attended the district schools near by until 1898, when he became a student at Pleasant View Lutheran college, located at Ottawa,

Illinois. On graduating the following year he filled a position for three years as book-keeper for a wholesale concern. In 1902 he became the assistant cashier of the State Bank of Hills and served in that capacity until the following year, when the institution was merged with the First National Bank. For four years thereafter he was a teller in the Sioux Falls National Bank. In January, 1907, he became connected with the Security Trust Co., of St. Paul, and was given special charge over the state agency work of the insurance department. For the first six months of the year 1909 Mr. Engbretson was with the Sioux Fire Insurance company as special agent for the state of Iowa, with headquarters at Des Moines. It was in July of that year that he returned to Hills and was instrumental in the organization of the Farmers State Bank, which received its charter on August 30. He was made the cashier and a director of the institution, offices he now holds. With his brother Carl he organized the Farmers Bank at Jasper about the same time. He is interested in the real estate firms of Finke Bros. & Engbretson of Hills, and the Engbretson Land company of Jasper. He is a member of the Masonic order and holds degrees up to and including the Shrine.

The Farmers State Bank was organized by Mr. Engbretson and other prominent men of Hills and vicinity in August, 1909, with a capital stock of \$10,000. The present officers are: President, W. F. Finke; vice president, P. O. Skyberg; cashier, M. Engbretson; assistant cashier, A. C. Finke. These gentlemen together with G. D. Nelson, H. Halvorson and Olaf Kolsrud constitute the board of directors. The bank has had a most successful career and is making a showing that attracts special attention. In 1910 the deposits aggregated more than \$50,000, and in the same year the institution laid by a handsome surplus.

GUS A. HAGEDORN (1888), of Springwater township, lays claim to the distinction of being the only breeder of Polled Hereford cattle in the state of Minnesota. An Iowan by birth, he was born in Scott county April 28, 1873, the son of James and Catherine (Brandt) Hagedorn. Both parents

were natives of Germany and came to America and Scott county, Iowa, in 1847.

When Gus was in his fifteenth year he accompanied his parents in their removal to Rock county. He completed his schooling and until attaining his majority assisted with the management of the home farm. Then he rented land of his father and commenced farming on his own account. In 1897 he left Minnesota and for three years resided and farmed in Colorado. Since his return he has continued to rent and farm the west half of section 33, Springwater township, and the northwest quarter of section 4, Beaver Creek township. Mr. Hagedorn is the clerk of school district No. 73. He is a stockholder in the Independent Harvester company of Plano, Illinois.

At Canon City, Colorado, on November 14, 1898, our subject was united in marriage to Clara Wichmann, also a native of Scott county, Iowa. Mrs. Hagedorn was born July 5, 1875, and is the daughter of Claus and Catherin (Lahann) Wichmann, both natives of Germany. One daughter, Alice Matilda, was born to these parents, March 22, 1903.

MADISON O. PAGE (1902), cashier of the First National Bank of Beaver Creek, was born in Hancock county, Illinois, October 12, 1878. He is the second in a family of three sons whose parents were J. S. and Isabelle (Ohler) Page, natives of New York and Kentucky, respectively. They settled in Illinois several years before the civil war and in 1880 moved to Ida county, Iowa. Nine years later the family home was made at Sioux City, where Mr. Page still resides. His wife died in October, 1903. The brothers of our subject are Sam Page, a lawyer of Sioux City, and B. R. Page, of Trosky.

Madison O. Page was a child two years of age when he accompanied his parents from Illinois to Ida county, Iowa, and he accompanied them from there on their removal to Sioux City. He was educated in the Sioux City high school, pursuing a business course in that institution. On leaving school he accepted a position with the George Savings Bank, of George, Iowa, as a stenographer and was later promoted to the assistant cashiership. For one and one-half years, beginning in 1901, Mr. Page held

a similar position with a bank at Alford, Iowa. Since the fall of 1902 he has been connected with the First National Bank of Beaver Creek in his present position. He is also the proprietor of the Beaver Creek creamery. From the first year of his residence in Beaver Creek he has held the office of village treasurer.

Mr. Page was joined in wedlock in Beaver Creek on November 20, 1907, to Gertrude M. Jones, a native of Luverne and a daughter of J. H. Jones, of that city. To these parents one son, Don W., was born April 7, 1909.

The First National Bank of Beaver Creek is the successor of the Bank of Beaver Creek, a private institution organized by the following named gentlemen: M. O. Page, Charles Shade, B. L. Richards, S. S. Wold and W. H. Bradley. The bank opened its doors for business on September 15, 1902, with the following staff of officers, who served continuously during the life of the bank: President, Chas. Shade; vice president, S. S. Wold; cashier, M. O. Page.

The reorganization into the First National Bank took place early in January, 1909. The capital stock was increased to \$25,000 and the following stockholders added to the original promoters: J. S. Crawford, E. J. Dunbar, C. Taubert, W. R. McCurdy, Andrew Ingelson, F. H. McDermott, Charles Walkup, G. Oesterle and C. S. Dyke. The present officers are: President, Charles Shade; vice president, J. S. Crawford; cashier, M. O. Page.

The bank does a general banking business, makes farm loans, writes insurance, etc., and under its present management is a conservative, prosperous institution. Each succeeding statement published exhibits the proof of healthy growth. The present substantial home of the bank was erected in 1902.

AMOS SCOTT (1884) is a respected citizen of Luverne township who has achieved distinction and success in two distinct fields of endeavor, those of the farmer and auctioneer. A native of Will county, Illinois, he was born January 6, 1861. His father, Jacob Scott, was born in Ohio and passed away from the family circle when Amos was a child of three years. The mother of

our subject, Martha (Kightlinger) Scott, also Buckeye state bred, died some fourteen years ago in Ford county, Illinois.

Amos Scott lived in the county of his birth until after passing his fourteenth birthday, moving thence with his mother to Ford county, of the same state. His boyhood days were spent on the farm. He was married at the age of nineteen and moved soon after with his young bride to Pettis county, Missouri, where he farmed for a year. Returning to Illinois, he operated a farm in McLean county two years, up to the time of his coming to Rock county in 1884. For the first eight years after that date our subject rented and farmed land on section 25, range 47, Martin township. The three following years he resided on the William Jacobsen farm in Luverne township and then for ten years was on section 2, Clinton township. At the beginning of the year 1911, he moved to his present home, just east of the Rock Island depot in Luverne, which has been known as the LaDue dairy farm. This desirable piece of land, containing eighty-five acres, is now the possession of Mr. Scott. He pays especial attention to the raising of high grade hogs and cattle.

As an auctioneer Mr. Scott's reputation is more than local. For the past nineteen years he has been engaged in the business and is now associated with Mr. Sanders under the firm name of Scott & Sanders. The territory over which their business extends is very large, the demand for their services being wide-spread through Rock and parts of Nobles county and in Iowa and South Dakota.

Mr. Scott was married in Ford county, Illinois, January 8, 1880, to Sarah Matthews, who was born near Jacksonville, Illinois, May 9, 1861. To them have been born six children, as follows: Bertha (Mrs. R. W. Steen), of Steen; Goldie (Mrs. Logan Trunel), of Martin township; Ione (Mrs. Ben McDowell), of Springwater township; and Rhoda, Claude and Russell, the last three living at home. Mr. Scott has served for six years as the treasurer of school district No. 3. He is a member of the M. W. A., I. O. O. F. and K. P. lodges of Luverne.

CHARLES A. BAKER (1880) operates what is known as the Muxlow farm of 350 acres on section 16, Luverne township. Mr. Baker is a native Minnesotan, having been born in Steele county October 30, 1862. His parents, Charles B. and Louisa (Lane) Baker, live at Oberon, North Dakota. The father, a native of New York state, spent his boyhood days in Ohio and was one of the pioneer settlers of Steele county.

The first eighteen years of the life of our subject were spent as a resident of Steele county. He was brought up on a farm and received an education in the neighborhood schools. His schooling was continued for some time after coming to Rock county, which was in the fall of 1880. For the first three years he lived with a cousin on a farm in Springwater township. After a year spent as a teacher in Minnehaha county, South Dakota, Mr. Baker took up a permanent residence in Rock county. For fifteen years he made the city of Luverne his home, during that time being employed by an implement firm. In 1901 he took his place in the ranks of Rock county farmers. For nine years he farmed in Beaver Creek township. In the spring of 1910 he moved to his present location. He is an extensive stock raiser and has been very successful in that line.

On New Year's day, 1885, in the city of Luverne occurred the wedding of Mr. Baker and Nettie Chesley, who was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, the daughter of Chesley and Maria (Clarkson) Chesley. Mr. and Mrs. Baker have one son, Charles Edwin, a student at the Luverne high school, born April 16, 1889. Mr. Baker has at all times been prominently identified with the civic and educational affairs of his community. While a resident of Beaver Creek, he was for six years a member of the township board and for four of the six years was the board's chairman. He served as one of the directors of school district No. 9 for four years. He is affiliated with the A. O. U. W. lodge of Luverne and the Yeomen lodge of Beaver Creek.

WILLIAM M. STEFFEN (1900), who owns and farms the southwest quarter of section 20, Springwater township, is a native of Holstein, Germany, where he was

born January 9, 1870, the son of Henry and Margretta (Sindt) Steffen. The parents are still living on a farm in the old country.

In the land of the kaiser our subject received a common school education and lived until after his twenty-third birthday. In the year of that event, 1893, William crossed the briny deep and commenced his career as an adopted son of Uncle Sam. For the first seven years the scene of his labors was Pottawattamie, Carroll and Pocahontas counties, Iowa, in each of which he was engaged at farm labor. His residence in Rock county began in 1900. For ten years thereafter he farmed rented land in Beaver Creek township. In the spring of 1910 he moved on his present farm, which had come into his possession the year previous. Mr. Steffen owns stock in the Farmers Elevator company of Beaver Creek.

The marriage of William M. Steffen to Lena Ohm occurred in Pocahontas county, Iowa, June 26, 1901. Mrs. Steffen was born July 6, 1876, the daughter of Jorgen and Frances (Ehlers) Ohm, natives of Germany. To this union have been born the following children: John, born April 16, 1902; Laura, born April 25, 1903; Annie, born May 23, 1905; William, born October 28, 1906; and Frank, born April 11, 1910. The family are members of the German Lutheran church.

FRANK FERGUSON (1883) is a member of the Luverne firm of Ferguson Bros. & Vincent, engaged in the real estate, farm loans and insurance business. He has been a resident of Rock county twenty-eight years. He is a native of Attica, Indiana, and was born September 29, 1865.

The parents of our subject are W. H. and Amanda (Leslie) Ferguson, natives of Somerset, Ohio, and Attica, Indiana, respectively. From 1866 to 1883 the family lived in Illinois; then they came to Rock county, bought a farm and lived here several years. Afterwards Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson lived at Valley Springs, South Dakota, at Willow Springs, Missouri, and now are residents of Luverne. There are five living children in the family.

Frank Ferguson was a baby when the family moved from Attica, Indiana, to Illinois. The home was, respectively, at Marseilles, Fairbury, Forrest and Bellflower, and

in those places Frank received his education and grew to young manhood. He accompanied his parents to Rock county in 1883, attended school two years, and then engaged in teaching school, which was his occupation for sixteen years. Then, in partnership with his brother, O. E. Ferguson, he engaged in the real estate business, buying out A. P. Adams, who had founded the business fifteen years before. On March 1, 1909, the brothers admitted A. P. Vincent as a partner, and since that time the firm name has been Ferguson Bros. & Vincent.

At the outbreak of the Spanish-American war in 1898 Frank Ferguson assisted in the organization of a company at Luverne and he was chosen the company's first lieutenant. The company was mustered into the United States service in July, 1898, as company G, of the Fifteenth Minnesota volunteer infantry, and was in the service about ten months, being stationed at Fort Snelling, Minnesota, Camp Meade, Pennsylvania, and Camp McKenzie, Georgia, being mustered out of the service at the last named place March 27, 1899. Mr. Ferguson is a Mason and Woodman.

JOHN ALINK (1879) is one of the early day settlers of Beaver Creek township, where he has passed all but the first two years of his life. He is a native Minnesotan and was born in Fillmore county December 16, 1876. His parents, Jacob and Dora (Brusse) Alink, were natives of Wisconsin and Holland, respectively. The paternal grandfather of our subject emigrated from Holland to the United States.

Jacob Alink journeyed from eastern Minnesota to Rock county in the days of the grasshopper scourge. Undaunted, he purchased land at his own price, prepared it for cultivation, and in 1879 removed his family from Fillmore county via the overland route. The land taken by the elder Mr. Alink is the same as that which his son John of this sketch now farms.

John was educated in the district schools and the public school at Beaver Creek. At the age of seventeen he commenced on a small scale to farm for himself. His father had died two years after settling in Rock county, in his thirty-first year, and as a result much responsibility early devolved on

the son. John bought the home quarter on section 17 in 1902, to which he added an adjoining quarter by purchase four years later. He is now the owner of a productive half section of well-improved land. Mr. Alink raises considerable stock and generally maintains in his herd forty head of cattle, twelve horses and 125 hogs. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator company of Beaver Creek.

Our subject was married in Beaver Creek township on December 16, 1903, to Frankie Chesley. Mrs. Alink is a native of Springwater township.

SVEN KITTELSON (1881), a farmer of Rose Dell township, is a native of Allamakee county, Iowa, where he was born September 15, 1856. His parents, Kittel and Libbie (Espelie) Olson, came from Norway and at an early date settled in Iowa.

Sven passed the first twenty-five years of his life in the county of his birth. There he was educated, and there he early engaged in agricultural pursuits. On arriving in Rock county thirty years ago, he bought the timber claim right to the southeast quarter of section 28, Rose Dell township. He worked out for several years, and then built on his farm, which has been his home to the present time, with the exception of five years when he lived on the northeast quarter of section 24, land he homesteaded and afterwards sold. Besides his home farm, Mr. Kittelson is the owner of 240 acres of fine land on sections 27 and 28, and also of a 200 acre farm in Grant county, Minnesota. He is an extensive breeder of high grade stock.

The marriage of Sven Kittelson to Annie K. Bingen was solemnized at Luverne in 1888. Annie K. Bingen was born in Norway February 20, 1860, the daughter of Kittel and Enger (Froland) Bingen, both deceased. The following four sons and four daughters have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Kittelson: Laura L., born July 18, 1889; Carl I., born February 15, 1891; Enga S., born October 11, 1893; Clarence, born September 19, 1895; Alma M., born November 11, 1897; Theodore O., born November 22, 1899; Albert A., born January 1, 1901; Selma A., born May 1, 1905.

FREDERICK PAUSTIAN (1896) has been one of the prominent citizens and leading men of affairs in the town of Hardwick ever since the first year of the town's existence. Frederick Paustian and William Ross, the first banker of Hardwick, were the leading spirits in perfecting the incorporation of the village of Hardwick. Many of the substantial buildings to be found in the town were erected by this loyal citizen and at one time he was the largest owner of real estate in the village.

Frederick Paustian is a native of Scott county, Iowa, and was born in a sod shanty on his father's farm, fourteen miles from the city of Davenport, on October 15, 1853. He is the eldest son of Fred and Caristana (Roesh) Paustian, both natives of Holstein, Germany, who came to America at an early age. They were among the pioneers of Scott county and eastern Iowa, having settled there in the early forties. That was their home up to the time of their death. In the Paustian family were twelve children, of whom nine are living.

Frederick continued to live on the old farm of his birth until his twenty-fourth year. Then he married and for six years thereafter he farmed rented land in Scott county. At the end of that time he was able to buy the farm, which he retained for three years and then sold out. Leaving Scott county to go to the adjoining one of Cedar, he lived for several years on a farm near the town of Bennett, and at the end of that period moved to Bennett, where for one fall he threshed and then engaged in the real estate and cream business for about a year.

During the month of January, 1896, Mr. Paustian took up his residence in Rock county and in Hardwick, which has since been the scene of his fruitful activities. For seven years he conducted the hotel and saloon combined, which he disposed of and then built the saloon now owned by Hagedorn Bros. This our subject conducted for three years and then for the same length of time he operated a billiard hall, bowling alley and confectionery in the substantial two-story brick building which he erected adjoining his other property. Since retiring from the last mentioned business in December, 1909, Mr. Paustian has been dealing to some extent in real estate with a

view to engaging permanently in that business. He is at present conducting a first-class auto livery.

In Scott county, in April, 1881, Fred Paustian was wedded to Lena Suhl, also a native of Scott county. Mrs. Paustian was born in 1857 and died April 22, 1909. To these parents six children were born, two sons and four daughters, as follows: Emil, of Hardwick; Laura (Mrs. A. J. Hennings), of Akaska, South Dakota; Clara (Mrs. Will Mannegal), of Hardwick; Caroline, Lillian and Alfred.

HEINRICH J. HEMME (1890) has been a prominent farmer and stock raiser of Denver township for the past twenty-one years. He was born on his father's farm in Hanover, Germany, on December 10, 1865. His father, Carl Hemme, was a farmer and a carpenter. His mother was Doris (Westhof) Hemme. Both parents died before Heinrich left the fatherland to come to the United States, which he did in 1873, at the age of eighteen years.

Mr. Hemme lived in Benton county, Iowa, prior to making settlement in Rock county. In Iowa he followed agricultural pursuits and also worked at the carpenter's trade. The year of his arrival in Rock county, 1890, he rented the southwest quarter of section 31, Denver township, of which he became the owner ten years later, and has farmed the land continuously since. Mr. Hemme is an extensive breeder, feeder and shipper of high grade stock. He owns stock in the Farmers Elevator company of Hardwick. He is one of the township's supervisors and a director of school district No. 49.

Our subject was married in Benton county, Iowa, on July 3, 1888, to Anna Meyer, who was born in Clayton county, Iowa, on June 2, 1868. Mrs. Hemme is the daughter of Ernst and Eliza (Strankmann) Meyer, natives of Germany. The following named five sons and the same number of daughters have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hemme: Ernst, Lessette, Heinrich, Lizzie, Agnes, Willie, Elmer, Ida, Elfrieda and Raymond. Mr. Hemme and his family belong to the German Lutheran church. Fraternally he is a member of the I. O. O. F. and A. O. U. W. lodges.

C. J. McCURDY (1885) is an enterprising farmer of Beaver Creek township, the owner of the southwest quarter of section 18. He is a native of Illinois and was born in McLean county on the fifteenth of March, 1872. Both his father and mother, Simon McCurdy and Mary Ann (Hay) McCurdy, are living and make their home with our subject.

Mr. McCurdy's early life was spent in the county of his birth, and there he received a common school education. At the age of thirteen, in 1885, with his parents, he departed from Illinois and journeyed to Rock county. For the first eighteen months the family were located on a farm a short distance west of Luverne, then moved to the northeast quarter of section 18, Beaver Creek township, land which the elder Mr. McCurdy had bought. Our subject assisted in the management of the home farm until 1903, since which time he has farmed for himself on the land described above, which he purchased the same year. Mr. McCurdy is an extensive stock raiser. For three years past he has served as a director of school district No. 44. He is a member of the Beaver Creek Methodist church.

At Luverne, on September 17, 1902, C. J. McCurdy was married to Sophia Sandstede, the daughter of John and Anna Sandstede, the latter of whom survives her husband. Mrs. McCurdy is a native German, born November 16, 1880, and came to this country in 1883. These parents have two children: Mabel, born June 4, 1907, and Verna, born January 23, 1910.

OLE R. HOLVERSON (1880) is a young and progressive farmer of Hardwick, who has spent his entire life within Rock county's borders. He was born September 22, 1880, on his father's homestead in Mound township. He attended the district schools and until he was twenty-three years of age he was a valued assistant to his father in the operation of the home farm. In 1903 Ole commenced farming for himself on his present location. He owns the farm, which is located on section 36, Denver township, and is within the corporate limits of the village of Hardwick. His place has been improved and is up-to-date in every respect.

The parents of our subject are Rasmus

and Lizzie (Thorson) Holverson, the former a native of Norway and the latter of Fayette county, Iowa. The worthy couple were among the first to settle in Mound township in the early seventies, and on the old homestead, the northeast quarter of section 12, they still make their home, Mr. Holverson at the age of sixty-three and his wife four years younger. They are the parents of the following ten children: Henry, Theodore, Ole R., Lizzie, Willie, Hattie, Alfred, Lillian, Stella and Leonard.

Ole R. Holverson was united in marriage at the home of his father September 21, 1904, to Eda Smith, who was born near Northfield, Minnesota, February 9, 1884. She is the daughter of Julius Smith, of Trosky. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Holverson: Clarence, on October 26, 1905, and Esther, on June 25, 1910. Mr. Holverson holds membership in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

JASPER CHRISTENSEN (1891) is the owner of one of Kanaranzi township's most thoroughly improved farms and is one of the precinct's most progressive agriculturists and stock raisers. He is a native of Kolding, Denmark, where he was born October 2, 1870. His parents, Mads and Sophia (Peterson) Christensen, are both deceased, the former having died in the old country in 1891 and the mother in 1902.

Our subject was reared on a farm in his native land and remained there until attaining his majority. Crossing the broad Atlantic in 1891, he journeyed direct to Rock county. For two years after his arrival he worked out as a laborer on several farms in Magnolia township. Then for five years he left the county and made his residence in the Black Hills country of South Dakota. During most of that time he was employed as section foreman on the F. E. & M. V. railroad, now a part of the Northwestern system. He also worked for a time in a saw mill.

In 1898 he returned to Rock county and established a permanent residence. For a number of years he was employed on the farm which he now owns, the northwest quarter of section 8. He now farms 240 acres, renting the additional eighty. Most of the improvements on the place are the

work of his own hands and betoken prosperity. In the raising of stock he has been unusually successful. Since 1904 Mr. Christensen has served as clerk of school district No. 24. For seven years he has been a member of the township board and chairman of the same for three terms.

Mr. Christensen has been married twice. On September 2, 1902, in Kanaranzi township, our subject married Mary Jensen, who died February 14, 1904. She was the daughter of N. P. Jensen, of Luverne, who homesteaded the farm on which the deceased wife was reared and where Mr. Christensen now resides. On March 10, 1909, in Clinton township, he was wedded to Serena Peterson, a native of Norway, who came to the United States about eleven years ago. By the second marriage he is the father of one child, Magnus, born January 28, 1910. The family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Kanaranzi township.

LOUIS E. COSS (1874), president of the Luverne Concrete company and real estate dealer of Luverne, is a native of Rock county, having been born in Springwater township October 28, 1874. He has spent his entire life in the county. Mr. Coss was educated in the district school and in the Luverne high school. With the exception of five years when he was a child he resided on the farm in Springwater until he was eighteen years of age; during the five years, he lived in Luverne with his parents.

At the age of eighteen years Mr. Coss engaged in teaching school for three or four years and in 1897 located in Luverne. He opened an insurance office, which he conducted alone until 1900. That year he formed a partnership with W. L. Buck, and for the next two years the partners conducted a real estate and insurance office. Since that time Mr. Coss has been in the business alone, having an office in the Arcade building. Mr. Coss is connected with several enterprises in Luverne. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen lodges.

The parents of our subject, Samuel and Mary (Bark) Coss, were early settlers of Rock county and were natives of New York

and Ohio, respectively. The mother came to the county in the spring of 1872, the father in the fall of the same year, and they were married here the following winter. They took as a homestead claim in 1873 the northwest quarter of section 34, Springwater township, land which they still own. With the exception of five years during the eighties, when they lived in Luverne, Mr. and Mrs. Coss resided on the homestead until 1900; they have since been residents of Luverne. Louis is the eldest of a family of five children in this family, the others being Earl R., S. A., Luella E. and Florence P.

Louis E. Coss was married in Luverne in 1898 to Irena J. Hileman, a native of Illinois and a daughter of David and Rachael Hileman, who moved to Rock county about 1890. Mr. Hileman died in Luverne; Mrs. Hileman is now a resident of Ottawa, Kansas. Mr. and Mrs. Coss have three children: Doretha, Vernon H. and Gladys.

ALBERT H. MEESTER (1893) is one of the successful farmers and large land owners of Kanaranzi township. He owns 240 acres on section 19, 160 acres on section 31, Kanaranzi township, and 243 acres in Clinton township, making him the possessor of 643 acres of Rock county's productive soil.

Germany is Albert Meester's native land, and it was on October 12, 1859, that he first saw the light of day. He is the son of Henry and Annie (Wilfank) Meester. His mother died in the fatherland at the age of thirty-six years. With his father the nine year old Albert came to America, and for the first year lived in Ogle county, Illinois. Then a home was made in Grundy county, Iowa, and there it was the youth developed into manhood. In 1883 our subject cast his eyes toward South Dakota, and in Turner county he took a homestead, upon which he lived ten years. At the end of that time, in 1893, he sold out and became a resident of Rock county, settling upon the farm which has since continued to be his home. For eight years he has served on the Kanaranzi township board of supervisors and is at present chairman of the body. He owns telephone

stock and is affiliated with the German Presbyterian church.

At Lennox, South Dakota, on March 28, 1884, Mr. Meester was joined in wedlock to Katie Rippentriap. They are the parents of three sons and three daughters, as follows: Eilert A., born May 15, 1885; Henry J., born May 23, 1887; Johannes A., born December 7, 1891; Sina, born October 7, 1893; Annie, born August 29, 1895; and Molly, born June 16, 1905.

ALBERT RADEMACHER (1901); an extensive farmer and breeder of Chester White hogs in Springwater township, is a native of Plymouth county, Iowa, where he was born March 21, 1870. His parents, Henry and Elizabeth (Lembcke) Rademacher, were both born in Mecklenburg, Germany.

In the county of his birth Albert received an education and grew to manhood. At the age of twenty-three he commenced farming for himself and the year following became the owner of a quarter section of Plymouth county land, which he worked until coming to Rock county in 1901. He rented land for four years, and then with his brother bought the northwest quarter of section 36 and the east half of section 35, range 47, Springwater township, and makes his home on the first described land. Mr. Rademacher is the treasurer of school district No. 52. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. and M. W. A. lodges.

In Plymouth county, Iowa, on March 4, 1896, Albert Rademacher was married to Augusta Mathwig, the daughter of Fred and Henrietta (Weincuff) Mathwig. She was born August 2, 1877. One daughter, Gladys, was born to these parents, December 15, 1900.

K. S. HOIME (1887), of Battle Plain township, was born in Valdres, Norway, on the nineteenth of July, 1864. He is the son of Steffen and Mary (Elestad) Hoime, both deceased. The former died in Norway during the early youth of our subject and the mother, who later came to this country, died at Hills in 1892.

K. S. Hoime of this sketch was reared on a farm in the old country, educated in

the common schools, and worked as a farm laborer for the major portion of the twenty-three years of his life passed in Norway. He immigrated to the United States in 1887 and journeyed direct to Rock county, which has been his home ever since. He hired out in Martin township for three years, then became identified with things agricultural in Battle Plain township. He farmed rented land for seven years and then bought his present farm property, the southwest quarter of section 13 and eighty acres on section 24. A commodious farm residence was erected by Mr. Hoime on his place in 1908, and many other substantial improvements have been added. He raises high grade stock.

On November 21, 1893, in Vienna township, our subject was married to Annie S. Anderson, who was born in Fayette county, Iowa, January 19, 1869, the daughter of Sevat and Rangdi (Swenson) Anderson. The mother is dead and the father now lives with his daughter. Mr. and Mrs. Hoime are the parents of four children, namely: Mabel, born in 1895; Alvin, born in 1897; Edwin, born in 1900; and Stener, born in 1902. Mr. Hoime has held various offices of trust in his township and school district.

CHESTER H. LINNELL (1885), a progressive farmer of Clinton township, owning 120 acres of the southwest quarter of section 3, has been a resident of Rock county for twenty-six years. He is the son of Charles and Mary (Linhart) Linnell and was born in Henry county, Illinois, December 27, 1866. Both the father, born in New York state in 1828, and the mother, a native of Ohio, died in Rock county, the former in 1888 and the latter two years later at the age of forty-five years.

Chester Linnell of this review was brought up on a farm and educated in the district schools of his native county, and his native county continued to be his home until after his eighteenth birthday. In 1885 he accompanied his parents to Rock county. The family located on section 10, Clinton township, and on the farm acquired by his father Chester lived until after the decease of his parents. One year previous to his father's death he rented

the home place and he managed it for five years thereafter. In the course of his residence there he bought his present property on section 3, upon which he moved a number of years ago. All the improvements on the place have been made by Mr. Linnell. He makes a specialty of raising thoroughbred Duroc-Jersey swine.

At Colona, Illinois, on March 20, 1901, Mr. Linnell was united in marriage to Amelia Lowe. Mrs. Linnell was born in Germany January 27, 1881, and came to the United States with her parents during her infancy. Her father, August Lowe, is a resident of Geneseo, Illinois, but her mother, Minnie Lowe, has been dead for some time. One child, Rodney Fay, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Linnell, on April 21, 1902. For three years Mr. Linnell served as a director of school district No. 3.

RAY L. NORTON (1891) is one of the big farmers and stockholders of Beaver Creek township and has a continuous residence of twenty years in the county to his credit. He is the owner of 480 acres of finely improved land in the precinct of his residence, the northeast quarter of section 5 and the west half of section 1. He is the son of Albert and Nancy (Swezey) Norton, both natives of New York state. The father, at the time of his death in the spring of 1892, was a prosperous Iowa county, Iowa, farmer. His wife is a resident of Marengo, Iowa. The Norton family is of Irish origin and made early settlement in America.

Ray L. Norton of this biography was born in Iowa county, Iowa, on the first day of July, 1869. In the county of his birth he was destined to pass the first twenty-two years of his life. He received a country school education and resided on the home farm until making settlement in Rock county in 1891. For the first nine or ten years in the county Ray carried on his farming operations in partnership with his brother D. O. Norton. They farmed in the townships of Kanaranzi, and Clinton and finally located on the Ira Crawford farm, adjoining the village of Beaver Creek.

It was during the three years residence of the Nortons on the Crawford farm, that they bought the northeast quarter of sec-

tion 5, and upon the dissolution of the partnership, Ray Norton moved to that place, where he now resides, and of which he is the sole owner. He purchased the other half section of his farm property in the spring of 1910. He is a successful stock breeder and makes a specialty of the thoroughbred Chester White hog. His herd generally averages forty head of cattle, fifteen horses and 100 hogs. Mr. Norton has served as overseer of his road district.

At Koszta, Iowa county, Iowa, on April 22, 1890, our subject was joined in wedlock to Mary Anderson, the daughter of Peter and Louisa Anderson, the latter of whom is still living. Mrs. Norton was born in Iowa county October 6, 1869. Mr. and Mrs. Norton are the parents of four children: Florence, born October 18, 1891; Hurel, born December 24, 1893; Coy, born June 3, 1899; and Edna, born October 8, 1900.

. LEWIS C. HODGSON (1884), deceased. Perhaps there was no man in Rock county who devoted more of his means and energy to the promoting of the interests of fancy stock breeding or was more successful in his experiments than the late L. C. Hodgson. The Percheron horses, Aberdeen Angus cattle and Chester White hogs which have been raised for nearly thirty years in Rock county by Lewis Hodgson are known far and wide throughout this and adjoining states for their special quality. For years the fine stock raised on the Hodgson farm has taken the blue ribbon at the state fairs of Minnesota, Iowa and South Dakota, not to mention numerous smaller exhibitions.

The man who must be given the credit for this noteworthy achievement was a native of Tazewell county, Illinois, where he was born December 21, 1850. His father, Aaron Hodgson, was a native of Ohio, while the birthplace of his mother, Elizabeth Hodgson, was Illinois.

The first twenty-six years of Lewis Hodgson's life were spent in his native state. After completing the public school course, he was for two years a student at Eureka college. In 1876 our subject on a journey to Nebraska became favorably impressed with the possibilities of the country and invested in a quarter section of land near

the town of Fairfield. He moved on to that farm and for four years made Nebraska his home. Finding an opportunity to dispose of his land at a handsome profit, he did so, and returned to his Illinois home. His father died in 1882, and through inheritance he came into possession of the home estate. The following year he disposed of the place, came to Rock county, and bought the northeast quarter of section 15, Luverne township, which has since been developed into one of the thoroughly and most-up-to-date improved farms in the county.

Since that time Mr. Hodgson's landed possessions have grown. In 1888 he became the owner of the southwest quarter of section 14, and in 1908 he invested in a 270 acre farm near Donnelly, Minnesota. He also purchased an orange grove of thirty-six acres near Brownsburg, Texas. In 1905 Mr. Hodgson rented the farm on section 15 to one of his sons and removed to the state of Washington. He remained there only a year, however, returning to the scene of his many years of labor. He bought a fine residence in the city of Luverne and made his home there until his death, which occurred March 23, 1911.

On February 14, 1872, at Ottawa, Illinois, Mr. Hodgson was married to Leila Ebersol, a daughter of Amos and Calista Ebersol, residents of the Illinois city. To Mr. and Mrs. Hodgson the following children were born: Lewis C., on December 29, 1872; Earnest W., on December 21, 1874; Karl W., on April 17, 1880; Victor A., on June 3, 1882; Robert E., on October 26, 1893; Nellie C., on January 20, 1878; Laura C., on October 20, 1884; Ray W., on October 28, 1888.

In political, educational and religious matters Mr. Hodgson always took a leading part and active interest. He was for nine years the treasurer of his township and for several years was a member of the Luverne board of education. He was a stanch member of the Presbyterian church, for twelve years served as an elder in the local congregation, and for nine years was the superintendent of the Sunday school.

MARTIN L. WAHLERT (1889) is the manager of the D. Rothschild Grain company's interests at Hardwick. He was born

in Holstein, Germany, June 15, 1862, and is the son of John Jacob and Amelia (Haak) Wahlert, who immigrated in the United States in 1883. They settled in Iowa county, Iowa, where the death of John Wahlert occurred in the spring of 1894. Mrs. Wahlert lives at Luverne and is seventy-three years of age. Besides Martin L. of this sketch there were three other sons and a daughter in the family: Minnie, who is deceased; William, of Casper, Wyoming; Jacob, of Springwater township; and Fred, of Luverne.

The first sixteen years of Martin Wahlert's life were passed in the land of his nativity. On leaving school he apprenticed himself to a millwright and worked at that trade until coming to the United States. After spending a short time with an uncle in Marengo, Iowa, he located in Moline, Illinois, where he engaged in carpenter work for three years. For a number of years thereafter Mr. Wahlert was a carpenter and contractor in several different localities of the United States—for awhile in Benton county, Iowa, then in Clay county, afterwards in Oregon, Washington, California and Nebraska, finally settling in the town of Everly, Clay county, Iowa.

In 1889 our subject became a resident of Rock county. He farmed rented land in Luverne township for six years and on other places until 1899, when he moved on to his own farm in Denver township, the east half of section 23. Five years later he became the owner of the northeast quarter of section 20 and lived thereon for a year. He was one of the organizers and the first president of the Farmers Elevator company, and in 1904 he moved to Hardwick to assume the management of the business. He was connected with the firm one year, at the end of which time he entered the employ of the Rothschild Grain company and commenced his present duties.

At Benton, Iowa, on September 21, 1883, Mr. Wahlert married Louisa Detlefs, also a native of Holstein, Germany, who came to this country in 1882. To them have been born eight children, of whom the following four are living: Fred J., of Sioux Falls, born August 2, 1884; Nora M. (Mrs. B. H. Piepgras), of Hardwick, born July 15, 1888; Henry J., born April 17, 1896; and Martha N., born December 4, 1898. The deceased children were Helene, Joe, Rosa and Willie.

Ever since his removal to Hardwick Mr. Wahlert has been a member of the school board and for one term served on the village council. He was a supervisor of Denver township for a number of years. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., Rebekahs, A. O. U. W. and D. of H. lodges and of the German Lutheran church.

HANS T. HOLVERSON (1891), manager of the Hardwick Farmers Elevator company, president of the State Bank of Hardwick and influential citizen of the progressive Rock county village, is a Norwegian by birth, his nativity occurring at Kongsberg August 11, 1866. He is the son of Ole and Annie Holverson, residents of Flandreau, South Dakota. They came to America in 1870 and after living in Waseca, Minnesota, for eight years moved to Moody county, South Dakota, and homesteaded land.

Hans was three years of age when he accompanied his parents in their journey across the Atlantic to establish a home in the new world. The family moved from Waseca to Moody county, South Dakota, making the entire trip in true pioneer style, via the ox-team route. Until 1890 Moody county continued to be the home of our subject and while there he was engaged principally in agricultural pursuits. In the year mentioned he entered the employ of E. A. Brown and located for a year at Altoona, now Cresson, Pipestone county, as a grain buyer. For eleven years thereafter he was employed in a similar capacity for the same firm at Hardwick. He resigned to engage in real estate operations in the same town. After two years he again took up grain buying for the D. Rothschild company and for the past six years has ably filled his present position. The Hardwick Farmers Elevator company was organized in 1904 as a co-operative concern, in which leading business men and farmers are interested. The first set of officers was as follows: President, P. T. Petersen; secretary, Harmon Hemme; treasurer, John Stamman; manager, M. L. Wahlert. Directors were C. G. Matthiesen, John Oye, A. Hauger, E. T. Thorson and T. O. Tollefson. The present officers and directors are: President, P. T. Petersen; secretary,



O. H. GRAVATT
Cashier of the Farmers State Bank of
Hardwick.



H. T. HOLVERSON
President of the Farmers State Bank of
Hardwick.



W. O. LARSON
One of the Leading Merchants of Hard-
wick.



M. L. WAHLERT.
Manager of the Rothschild Grain Company
at Hardwick.

O. H. Gravatt; treasurer, Henry Rolfs; vice president, J. P. Kennedy; Adolph Hauger, Adolph Carl, J. F. Matthiesen, Carl Wiese and J. C. Mannigel.

Mr. Holverson has been president of the Farmers State Bank of Hardwick since January, 1910. He has held the office of village recorder continuously since the incorporation of the village with the exception of one year, and that year he was the president of the council. He is the owner of considerable real property in the village, in Rock county, in Murray county and in Roberts county, South Dakota. The Holverson addition to Hardwick was platted in 1900 by our subject from some of his land. Mr. Holverson's career has been one of success. Starting with no capital but a lofty ambition and a good stock of the spirit of perseverance, he has pushed himself forward to a position of influence and respect in his home community and the county at large. Mr. Holverson is a member of the I. O. O. F. and M. W. A. lodges and the Presbyterian church.

Our subject has been married three times. His first two wives were sisters, Lizzie and Mary Brock, both of whom died and left a child each. Their names are Lillian and Inga. He was married a third time in Minneapolis on August 14, 1905, to Alma Holm, a native of Sweden.

W. ORANGE LARSON (1902) is a successful and enterprising merchant of Hardwick who has by sheer ability and unaided effort built up the leading mercantile business in his home town and one that would do credit to a larger place than Hardwick. Self-made aptly expresses Mr. Larson's status.

W. Orange Larson is a native of Allamakee county, Iowa, having been born at Harper's Ferry on the first of July, 1871. He was educated in the common schools of his home county, at the Waukon Business college, and at the Iowa state normal, located at Cedar Falls. He came to Rock county to engage in teaching, which he did for a number of years. Then for four years he was a successful farmer. In May, 1908, our subject moved to Hardwick and the same year bought the stock of general merchandise and the building which housed

it from J. B. Iverson. It is that business which Mr. Larson has developed to its present prosperity. He also has heavy interests in Canada land. Four years ago he invested in a section in central Saskatchewan, near the city of Regina, which has increased many times the purchase price in value. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. and Rebekah lodges of Hardwick and the K. P. of Jasper.

Mr. Larson is one of a family of ten children born to L. O. and Mary O. Larson, natives of Norway, who came to this country in childhood. They were among the pioneer settlers of Allamakee county, Iowa, where they continue to reside at the ages of sixty-eight and sixty-five years, respectively.

ONES H. GRAVATT (1908) is the cashier of the Farmers State Bank of Hardwick. He was born February 24, 1882, in the town of Traer, Iowa, where his parents, Albert and Irena Gravatt, have resided for many years. In the Gravatt family are six boys and one girl, who, besides Ones, are Arthur, Mabel, Clifford, Leroy, Guy and Howard.

Ones H. Gravatt received a careful education in the public schools of his native town and later at the Iowa state normal school and the Cedar Rapids Business college. At the age of twenty he went west and for a number of years was employed as a clerk in leading stores of Palo Alto and San Francisco, California. He was in California during the great earthquake catastrophe in the spring of 1906. Following that event he returned to Iowa and located in Terrill as assistant cashier of the Bank of Terrill. He remained there until February, 1908, when he entered upon his present duties in the Hardwick bank, in which he holds stock. He is also the secretary of the Hardwick Farmers Elevator company and a member of the city council. He holds membership in the Odd Fellows and Rebekah lodges.

Hardwick's first bank was a private institution organized in 1893 by Iowa capital. E. E. Taylor, of Traer, Iowa, was its first president and G. O. Ross its cashier. A few years later Mr. Ross was promoted to the vice presidency and his brother, D. J. Ross, became cashier. In December, 1907,

the bank was reorganized with a capital stock of \$10,000 and chartered as the Farmers State Bank of Hardwick. The stock is all owned by local business men and farmers. Since the reorganization the business of the bank has more than doubled. The present officers are: President, H. T. Holverson; vice president, C. H. Christopher-son; cashier, O. H. Gravatt. The capital stock was increased in December, 1910, to \$15,000. Under the present able management the deposits have doubled in the past year.

LIONEL E. LEAR (1889) is a Springwater township farmer. He was born on a farm near Darlington, Wisconsin, and his parents were Edwin and Mary (Carpenter) Lear. Our subject received the educational training of the rural schools and assisted with the work on the farm until twenty years of age. For four years thereafter he was engaged in hauling cream for the Darlington creamery. Since 1889 he has been a Rock county farmer, having farmed successively in the townships of Beaver Creek, Mound, Battle Plain and Springwater. In 1908, after a year spent as a resident of Hardwick, Mr. Lear rented and moved to his present farm, the southwest quarter of section 35, Springwater township.

At Darlington, Wisconsin, on the twenty-ninth of December, 1885, Lionel E. Lear was united in marriage to Sarah A. Harrison. Mrs. Lear was born in England April 17, 1866, the daughter of Richard and Rebecca (Marshall) Harrison, and came to this country at the age of thirteen years. The following six children have blessed this union: Clara R., born May 25, 1887; Flossie M., born October 28, 1889; Hazel M., born November 16, 1893; Harrison E., born February 29, 1896; Ethel T., born March 29, 1904; and Royal M., born September 17, 1906.

MARK BEAUBIEN (1883), a Kanaranzi township farmer who makes a specialty of breeding fine sheep and horses, has been a resident of Rock county for all except the first five years of his life. He is the son of David and Laura (Ross) Beaubien, who have for twenty-eight years been

among the highly respected inhabitants of Luverne. The elder Mr. Beaubien was one of the very first white children born in the city of Chicago, which at that time was but an oversized trading post on the frontier. The grandfather of our subject, away back in 1833, traded a quarter section of land in what is now the heart of the great city for a pony, saddle and bridle and considered that the best end of the deal had fallen to his lot.

Mark was born at Dubuque, Iowa, on December 18, 1878. He came with his parents to Luverne five years later, and in the public schools of that city he received his education. As a boy of sixteen he took employment in Nelson Brothers' department store and remained with that firm eight years. Deciding to cast his lot with the tillers of the soil, in 1905 he rented the northwest quarter of section 6, Kanaranzi township, and set up as a farmer. He made that place his home five years, or until December, 1909, the date of his removal to his present location, the southeast quarter of section 18.

Mr. Beaubien was united in marriage in Kanaranzi township in November, 1903, to Gertie L. Johnson, a daughter of S. Johnson, of Luverne. To them two children have been born, Charley S., on October 18, 1904, and Ina M., on December 21, 1906. Mr. Beaubien holds membership in the I. O. O. F. and M. W. A. lodges.

JAMES S. JOLES (1882), the capable assessor of Luverne for twelve years past, is one of the early settlers of that enterprising city. A native Pennsylvanian, he was born in Crawford county October 13, 1846, and in that county were also born his parents. He is the son of Nelson and Anna (Fish) Joles, both deceased, who moved with their family and became pioneers of Geneseo, Henry county, Illinois. Nelson Joles was by occupation a contractor and carpenter and for a long period was employed with the Rock Island railway in construction work.

James S. Joles of this sketch was in early boyhood when the family settled in Illinois, and in Henry county he resided until moving to Rock county and Luverne in 1882. He was educated in the schools of Gene-

seo and after growing up engaged in farming. Mr. Joles came to Luverne to assume the proprietorship of the old Luverne hotel, which in the early eighties occupied the present site of the Weick feed barn. This property was entirely destroyed by fire August 4, 1886. Four years later our subject re-engaged in the hotel and restaurant business on Main street and conducted the enterprise for the following eleven years. In addition to his present duties as city assessor, Mr. Joles is the superintendent of Maplewood cemetery. By lodge affiliation he is an Odd Fellow.

While a resident of Geneseo, Illinois, on June 17, 1873, Mr. Joles was married to Sophia C. Johnson, a native of Sweden. Mrs. Joles died June 17, 1906, at the age of sixty-one years. Three children, of whom two survive, were born to this union. A daughter, Elsie J., born in 1879, died May 9, 1897. Another daughter is Maud L. (Mrs. B. E. Schuck), of Luverne, and Cloys A., of Luverne, is an only son.

ANDREW J. ROGNESS (1882) owns and farms the southwest quarter of section 17, Martin township. Rock county has been his home since he was a lad ten years of age. He is the son of Jul and Beret (Julson) Rogness and was born in Nordre Aurdal, Valdres, Norway, on October 20, 1872. His father, who was a small farmer, died in the old country when Andrew was a child of six. Mrs. Rogness, the mother, soon after sold the family property and with her three children, Marit, Jul and Andrew, came to this country. That was in 1882. The mother and three children journeyed direct to Rock county and Martin township. Andrew made his home with an uncle, Helge Rogness, attended the district schools and grew to manhood, a true son of Nature. In 1892 he was able to buy his present farm and he has conducted it successfully since that time. He is the treasurer of school district No. 33, owns stock in the First National Bank of Hills, and is a member of the Synod Norwegian Lutheran church.

Mr. Rogness was joined in wedlock in Martin township on New Year's day, 1905, to Helen T. Twange, who was born May 16,

1879. She is the daughter of Hoverd and Enge Twange, residents of Hills. Mr. and Mrs. Rogness are the parents of three children: Jul H., born November 15, 1906; Alfred H., born January 13, 1908; Blanch I., born June 18, 1909.

OLE T. TOLLEFSON (1883), manager and grain buyer for the E. A. Brown elevator at Hardwick, is a native of Rock county and has spent his entire life within its borders. His birth occurred on his father's old homestead in Mound township on April 12, 1883. His education received in the district schools was supplemented by a course in the business department of the Breck school at Wilder. Until twenty years of age Ole lived on the home farm, assisting his father in its management and buying stock for him after he grew to a mature age. In 1903 he moved to Hardwick and for a year was employed as second grain buyer by the Hardwick Farmers Elevator company. He then accepted his present position with the E. A. Brown company as manager of the firm's interests in Hardwick. He is an industrious young man, well qualified for the position he holds, and has a bright business future.

Ole is the eldest son of Tollef O. Tollefson, who was born in Norway June 19, 1849, and who came to the United States in 1857, residing for two years thereafter in Clayton county, Iowa. He then moved to Allamakee county in the same state, where he farmed until 1871. That year he moved to Rock county and homesteaded on section 14, Mound township, his farm being known as the "Springdale Stock Farm." There he lived for eighteen years, engaging in farming and stock and grain buying. In 1905 he took up his residence in Hardwick and has since been dealing in live stock. He owns 280 acres in Mound township and property in Hardwick. In 1882 Tollef Tollefson married Emma Helling. She was a native of Norway, and died in 1889. Four children were born to this union: Ole T., of this sketch; Carl A., Louis A. and Annie T. He was married a second time in 1896 to Mary Hoime, also of Norwegian birth. One daughter, Clara Marie, has been born to these parents. Tollef Tollefson held many offices of trust while

a resident of Mound township. He is a member of the M. W. A. lodge.

Ole T. Tollefson was married in Rock county, August 9, 1910, to Ora M. Beaty, who was born in Rock county July 6, 1888. She is the daughter of J. N. and Ella Beaty, early settlers of Rock county and now residents of Luverne. Our subject is affiliated with the M. W. A., R. N. A. and I. O. O. F. lodges and is noble grand of the local lodge of the last named order.

ALBERT AHRENDT (1890) owns and farms 320 acres of Mound township's productive soil, the northwest quarter of section 28 and the southwest quarter of section 21. All the land is thoroughly improved. For the home quarter, which Mr. Ahrendt purchased in 1890, he paid \$11 per acre, and twelve years later, when he became the owner of his second quarter section, an adjoining tract, he was obliged to pay \$55 per acre, a case illustrating the rapid advance of Rock county real estate. Today it would require nearly double the last mentioned amount to effect a transfer of Mr. Ahrendt's lands.

Albert Ahrendt was born in Clayton county, Iowa, March 5, 1859, the son of John and Louisa (Weinreben) Ahrends, who were born and married in Germany. The mother died in Benton county, Iowa, in 1890. John Ahrendt, the father, survived his wife seven years and breathed his last in Rock county.

Our subject was nine years of age when he accompanied his parents to Benton county, Iowa. He lived on the home farm until after his twenty-fourth birthday, then married, and for two years farmed rented land in his home county. He was a Plymouth county (Iowa) farmer for a period of four years, and in 1890 established his present residence in Rock county. Mr. Ahrendt is an extensive breeder and feeder of the highest grades of stock. He was an officer of school district No. 12 for nine years, serving part of that time as director and later as treasurer. He is at the present time road overseer. He and his family belong to the German Lutheran church of Luverne.

While still a resident of Benton county, on the first of November, 1883, Albert Ahrendt was married to Anna Goeske, who

was born in Germany November 5, 1867, and came to the United States in 1880. Ten children have been born to this union, all of whom live at home except the eldest daughter, Emma (Mrs. William Boldt), of Mound township, born August 9, 1886. The names of the other children follow: Lucine, born April 20, 1888; Johann, born July 7, 1889; Walter, born July 20, 1890; George, born September 9, 1891; Alma, born November 1, 1892; Ella, born August 17, 1894; Albert and Anna, twins, born October 31, 1896; and Ludwig, born November 22, 1899.

ANDREW JENSEN (1880) is a Rock county boy, the son of two of the county's pioneers, N. P. and Lena Jensen, who in 1873 came direct from Denmark and settled in the northwest quarter of section 8, Kanaranzi township. It was there that Andrew of this sketch was born on June 26, 1880.

At the district school near by Andrew received his elementary education. Following a year spent at the Lutheran normal school at Sioux Falls, he entered the state school of agriculture at St. Anthony Park, from which he was graduated in 1904. For two years after leaving school he worked at the carpenter trade. In 1902, with his father, he bought the east half of section 17, Kanaranzi township, which is his present home. It was not until 1906 that he settled there permanently. Today he is engaged in farming 320 acres of the best land in the township. He makes a specialty of raising Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs and in this pursuit he has met with great success.

Mr. Jensen was united in marriage at Kanaranzi on September 2, 1908, to Zula M. Bowen, the daughter of A. E. and Winnie Bowen, the former of whom is the operator of Brown's elevator at Kanaranzi. One child, Winnifred H., has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Jensen.

Mr. Jensen has been prominent in politics for a number of years and at the present time serves as a member of the democratic state central committee. He owns stock in the Kanaranzi Mutual Telephone company and in the Farmers Elevator company of Kanaranzi, of which company he is also a director. He holds membership in the I. O. O. F. and M. W. A. lodges.

NELS K, LARSON (1889), of Battle Plain township, is a native of Norway, but has resided in Rock county since he was fourteen years of age. He was the fifth in a family of six sons and four daughters born to Knut and Haldis (Opsatre) Larson, now of Luverne. Four of these children, Tollef, Borgil, Lars and Ole, are deceased. Besides our subject the names of those surviving are Lars, Borgil, Gunhild, Ole and Tilda.

Nels was born in the province of Hallingdal, Norway, May 29, 1875. At the age of eight he immigrated to America with his parents and located with them in Fayette county, Iowa, which was the family home until 1889, the year the Larsons settled in Rock county. The father bought at the time the east half of the southeast quarter of section 33, Battle Plain township, our subject's home to this day. He was educated in the district schools of Battle Plain and was for three months a student at the Breck school of Wilder. In 1905 Mr. Larson commenced farming for himself and four years later became the purchaser of the home farm. This, with another quarter section he owns in section 33, gives him a farming area of 240 acres, and all the land is thoroughly improved.

As a stock breeder Mr. Larson has met with success. He raises especially high grade cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs. He owns stock in the Farmers Elevator company of Kenneth and is a member of the United Norwegian Lutheran church.

CONRAD H. CHRISTOPHERSON (1903) is county attorney of Rock county and lives at Luverne. He is a native Minnesotan, having been born at Albert Lea December 29, 1875, in which city he grew to manhood. He was graduated from the Albert Lea high school in 1893 and from the Minnesota state university in 1898 with the degree of B. A.

After his graduation from the university Mr. Christopherson located at Long Prairie, Minnesota, where for several years he was superintendent of the public schools. He then took up the study of law and in 1903 was admitted to the bar. He located in Luverne the same year and entered into partnership with E. H. Canfield. One year later the partnership was dissolved and

since that time Mr. Christopherson has been engaged in practice alone. He was elected county attorney on the republican ticket in 1904 and has since served in that capacity, having been re-elected each two year term. He is secretary of the Luverne public library board.

Carl and Hellene Christopherson, the parents of our subject, were natives of Norway and came to America when children. They were married at Albert Lea. Carl Christopherson died there in 1892 at the age of forty-five years. Mr. Christopherson still lives in that city. There are three children in the family, namely, Alfred, Conrad H. and Laura.

The subject of this biography was married in Luverne August 15, 1901, to Effie M. Jacobsen. She was born in Luverne August 19, 1878, daughter of the late William and Milla C. Jacobsen. Three children have been born to this union: Paul M., born August 12, 1902; Robert C., born May 8, 1907; Conrad W., born July 29, 1909.

S. JOHN N. CRAGOE (1892), Beaver Creek township farmer, is a native of Cornwall, Landsend, England, where he was born September 22, 1866. His father, John N. Cragoe, is a farmer now living in Green Lake county, Wisconsin; his mother, Mary (Pierce) Cragoe, died in Wisconsin in 1875.

When a child less than three years of age, in the summer of 1869, the subject of this review came to the United States with his parents. Until he was sixteen years of age he resided on the farm of his parents near Markesan, Green Lake county, Wisconsin, and he received his education in that town. He then went to Waupun, Wisconsin, where for a little less than eight years he was engaged in fitting and shipping windmills, being employed by the Alt-house-Wheeler company, manufacturers. We next find our subject in the city of Chicago, where for a year he was employed by the United States Express company as a driver.

During the month of August, 1892, Mr. Cragoe came to Rock county, and he has since been engaged in farming in Luverne and Beaver Creek townships, locating on

his present place in 1905. He farms the southwest quarter of section 14 and the southeast quarter of section 15. On the afternoon of July 5, 1910, the house occupied by the Cragoe family was burned to the ground. Most of the furniture on the lower floor was saved. The family lived in a large tent during the summer while a new house was being built. The new home was completed October 8, 1910. Mr. Cragoe engages extensively in stock raising, raising cattle, sheep, hogs, horses and mules. He has stock in the Farmers Elevator company of Beaver Creek. For the past several years he has served as a director of school district No. 16 and he holds membership in the Odd Fellows lodge of Luverne and the Yeomen lodge of Beaver Creek.

Mr. Cragoe was married at Waupun, Wisconsin, June 30, 1890, to Jane Yarnall, a daughter of James Yarnall, of Osseo, Wisconsin. Mrs. Cragoe was born March 21, 1870, in the city in which she was married. Mr. and Mrs. Cragoe have a large family of children, as follows: John J., born May 28, 1891; Sydney A., born February 19, 1893; Lloyd P., born March 9, 1895; James R., born February 10, 1897; Mary Ann, born March 5, 1899; Charles, born October 23, 1900; Susie, born June 11, 1902, died April 22, 1905; Harlow, born January 18, 1905; Jenette, born October 20, 1906; Albert, born October 15, 1908.

OLAF J. NASH (1896) is associated with August C. Finke in the publication of the Hills Crescent and of late years has held the dominant editorial sway over the progressive Rock county publication. Mr. Nash is a Norwegian by birth, born in Larvik October 6, 1873. His father was a sea-faring man who for a great number of years commanded a merchant vessel, of which he was part owner.

It was in 1879 that Captain Nash disposed of his interests in the land of the midnight sun and with his family took passage on the White Star Line steamer "Adriatic" for the newer country to the west. The family located at once in Rushford, Minnesota, where the father secured employment in the factory of the Rushford wagon works, a company in which some relatives

were largely interested. The plant in question was destroyed by fire during the winter of 1880 and rebuilt at Winona, whither the family moved, but after a residence of nine months returned to Rushford.

Olaf's education until his fourteenth year was received in the Rushford public schools. Then he began to "hustle for himself." Imbued with a desire to master the mysteries of the art preservative, he apprenticed himself as a "devil" in the office of the Rushford Star, receiving as compensation the magnificent salary of \$1.00 per week. After six months there, an offer of \$2.00 a week and board attracted him to LaCrosse, Wisconsin, to work on the "Varden" a Norwegian weekly, a position he held until the paper suspended publication two years later. Then followed a year of varied experiences, during which the young "print" subbed on the LaCrosse dailies, set type for a city directory, was second cabin boy on a Mississippi river steamboat, did the twin cities for work, and secured a job shingling a big church, the laborer receiving \$1.00 per day for his hire. The summer of 1893 found the youth errant in LaCrosse once more, where for a time he held cases on the "Folkevennen." He then went to Sioux Falls to accept a position on the "Syd Dakota Ekko." In 1896 the call came from Hills, and that year he formed a partnership with A. C. Finke in the publication of the Hills Crescent, a union which still exists. In 1899 Mr. Nash returned to Sioux Falls to assume a position offered as foreman on the "Syd Dakota Ekko," which he continued to hold until the first of February, 1902, when the Crescent demanded his attention and he returned to Hills and to the paper he has built up to its present high standard. For the past four years Mr. Nash has served as village treasurer.

We quote from a published explanation by Mr. Nash, giving the circumstances of how it came about that "an imported Norwegian comes to sail under the Irish name of Nash." On arriving at school the first day the youthful candidate for American naturalization, in order to be enrolled, was asked by the teacher for his name. On being told in genuine Norsk that it was "Olaf Næss," she quickly informed him

that there was no letter æ in the American alphabet and said that the name would have to be revised for daily use, so she decided that Nash would be the nearest thing to it and that is how it went on the enrollment book. As the old family name had no aristocratic connections it was given up without further thought, although the owner is often taken to be of Norwegian-Irish extraction.

Mr. Nash was married at Leroy, Minnesota, on June 14, 1905, to Brita Larson, a native of Mitchell county, Iowa, where she was born December 14, 1879. Mrs. Nash is the daughter of Jacob and Ragnhild Larson. One daughter, Carola, was born to this union, July 8, 1908.

Since the above was put in type, the subject of this sketch has forsaken the printing business and engaged in banking. He is at present cashier of the Farmers State Bank of Hills.

J. H. KITTERMAN (1893) is the proprietor of the drug store at Steen. He was born in Appanoose county, Iowa, March 31, 1850. His father, John Kitterman, a native of Indiana, and his mother, Survillea (Rhodes) Kitterman, who was born in Ohio, are still living in Lyon county, Iowa.

Iowa was Mr. Kitterman's home until he attained the age of forty-four. The first nine years were spent in the county of his birth, the remaining thirty-three years as a resident of Worth county. He was brought up on a farm and remained at home until after his twentieth birthday. Then he commenced the battle of life for himself. For one year he was employed as an engineer in a grist mill, and then for the same length of time he learned the ins and outs of the life of a stage driver. He abandoned that pursuit, was married, and for thirteen years following his occupation was that of collector for a large machine firm. He next set up in the general mercantile business, for two years operating a store at the town of Bristol and for less than half that period at Lake Mills.

Our subject's career as a resident of Rock county began in June, 1893. During that month he located at Ashcreek, where for a little less than two years he conducted a general store and a lumber yard.

On selling out the business, he bought a bankrupt stock, valued at \$10,000, in Sioux Falls, and conducted the store for a year. His family did not move from Ashcreek, however. In 1896 he settled in Steen, where he started a general store and livery barn. He conducted the store for a little over five years and the barn for one year, leasing it from that time. He still owns both properties. Before retiring from the mercantile business he engaged in the drug business and since selling the former he has devoted himself exclusively to the operation of his drug store.

Mr. Kitterman has on several occasions been honored by election to offices of trust. For ten years he held the office of justice of peace, for six years served as clerk of Clinton township, and for the same period was one of the directors of his school district. During his residence in Worth county, Iowa, he served for thirteen years as a justice of peace and for ten years was the constable of his precinct, having been appointed to the latter office when he was a youth of nineteen. Mr. Kitterman is the owner of the southwest quarter of section 15, Clinton township.

At Northwood, Worth county, Iowa, on November 25, 1871, our subject was united in marriage to Harriet E. Jones, a native of Catteraugus county, New York. Their one son, F. F. Kitterman, resides at Steen and is the manager of the livery barn. He also takes care of autos.

MRS. ZIGRED TVEDT (1883) is the widow of Halsten Tvedt, who was for more than a quarter of a century a well known Springwater township farmer. She was born in Hardanger, Norway, August 11, 1859, the daughter of Tollef and Zigred (Selgestad) Jossendahl.

Our subject was married in Norway to Halsten Tvedt, who was born January 25, 1847. The marriage occurred on the ninth of June, 1882. The following year the young couple left the motherland to establish a home in the United States. They came direct to Rock county and here Mr. Tvedt commenced farming on a small scale and carried on his trade in connection for a number of years. At first he bought thirty acres on section 11, range

47, and later became the owner of the whole southwest quarter of that section. He also left to his estate the northwest quarter of section 13, a total of a half section of finely improved land, upon which Mrs. Tvedt and her family now dwell.

Mrs. Tvedt is the mother of the following named four children: Holden T., born January 26, 1887; Sarah R., born July 4, 1889; Thomas A., born June 7, 1896; and Johnnetie H., born January 12, 1898. The family are members of the Synod Norwegian Lutheran church.

JAMES E. VARAH (1888) owns and farms the northwest quarter of section 21, Battle Plain township, and is an extensive breeder of Poland China hogs. He was born in Oswego county, New York, August 25, 1858, the son of James and Alice (Bell) Varah. Both parents were of English birth, came to this country in 1855, and settled in Oswego county, New York.

James was educated in the district schools of his native county and resided on the home farm until after his twentieth birthday. Then he went to LaSalle county, Illinois, worked out on farms two years, then rented land and commenced farming on his own account. He moved from Illinois to Sioux county, Iowa, and farmed near Rock Valley for a number of years. His advent to Rock county was in 1888. In the spring of that year he located in Clinton township and there he continued his occupation of farming. Buying three-quarters of a section of land in Murray county, he moved thereon, improved the place, and finally sold in 1897 to become the owner of his present Battle Plain township farm. That he rented out, and the following year Mr. Varah journeyed to the gold fields of Alaska, then opening up. He remained in the northern country three years and met with considerable success in his ventures.

Our subject returned to the states and to Rock county in 1901. For two years he worked at the carpenter's trade in Laverne and in the fall of 1903 he located on, and has since resided on, his Battle Plain township farm, which is rapidly being improved. Mr. Varah owns stock in three

co-operative concerns: the South Dakota Rural Telephone company, the Farmers Elevator company of Harwick, and the Independent Harvester company of Plano, Illinois. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge.

James E. Varah has been twice married. His marriage to Elizabeth Murphy occurred at Odell, Illinois, February 6, 1882. Mrs. Varah died six months later. In Lyon county, Iowa, on September 28, 1887, he was married to Anna Oestreich, a native of Clayton county, Iowa. She was born on Christmas day, 1869, the daughter of William and Rosalie (Adler) Oestreich, natives of Germany. William Oestreich now resides at Marshall. His wife died January 3, 1910.

ANDREW J. TANGEMANN (1903) is a prominent merchant of Beaver Creek. He was born in Benton county, Iowa, March 19, 1866, and is the second oldest in a family of six children whose parents were August and Henrietta (Meyer) Tangemann, natives of Ohio and Germany, respectively. The mother died thirty-two years ago and the father in December, 1909.

At the age of four years Andrew moved with his parents to Allamakee county, Iowa, where he received a common school education. On leaving school he commenced working for his father in the latter's flour mill. The elder Mr. Tangemann was also the owner of a saw mill, of which Andrew assumed complete management at the age of sixteen. After nine years of continuous service with his father he entered the employ of the home creamery as a butter maker. At the age of twenty-nine years, with a thousand dollars capital, Mr. Tangemann moved to Vivian, Minnesota, and established a general mercantile business, which he successfully conducted for nearly eight years. On selling out in 1903, he went to Beaver Creek and purchased the George Chisholm stock of general merchandise and a two-story building, into which he moved the stock. He disposed of the business at the end of three years and moved to Ellsworth, Minnesota, where he remained eight months. He then re-engaged in the mercantile business at Hudson, South Dakota, but after a year moved

the stock of goods to Lester, Iowa. He finally traded the business for a half section of land in Pipestone county and then returned to Beaver Creek, bought back the store he had sold three years previous, and since then has built up a prosperous business. He carries an \$8000 stock of staple merchandise. Our subject is a member of the A. O. U. W. lodge.

In Allamakee county, Iowa, March 12, 1891, Mr. Tangemann was united in marriage to Julia Bratsberg, a native of North McGregor, Iowa, where she was born October 5, 1869. Mrs. Tangemann is the daughter of John and Inga Bratsberg, both natives of Norway. John Bratsberg died fifteen years ago; his wife lives with a daughter, Mrs. J. L. Parrott, of Mobridge, South Dakota. Mr. and Mrs. Tangemann have two children: Verra H., a student at Carleton college, born February 13, 1892, and Arthur J., born February 23, 1896.

BEN HOVEN (1881) is a Rock county resident of thirty years standing and is one of the successful farmers of Vienna township. He owns the northwest quarter of section 1, which has developed through his efforts from a treeless prairie tract, boasting only a few old, worn-out buildings and sheds, to one of the finely improved farms of the precinct, with an elegant farm residence and commodious barns. He was born in northern Norway on October 15, 1861, the son of Henry and Gertie (Kittelson) Hoven. The former parent, a farmer by occupation, died in 1890; the mother still resides in Norway.

Ben was brought up on his father's farm in the old country, which he left in 1880, at the age of eighteen, to come to America. He lived for part of a year with an uncle in Emmett county, Iowa; then in April, 1881, he began his career in Rock county. For seventeen years he was employed on many of the leading farms in the county, for the most part in the townships of Magnolia, Beaver Creek and Luverne, and had among others as employers L. M. Fogg, ex-Sheriff Gillham, John Michelson and George B. Huntington. He became the owner of his present farm in October, 1897, and has lived on it since the spring following the date mentioned.

Mr. Hoven is an extensive breeder of high grade stock. He belongs to the Norwegian Lutheran church of Kenneth.

In Luverne, on October 18, 1895, Ben Hoven was married to Carrie Johnson, who was born in Norway August 4, 1873, and came to the United States two years previous to her marriage. Of the five children born to Mr. and Mrs. Hoven, two have died: Gilbert, born September 21, 1900, died April 21, 1901, and Gena, born January 23, 1902, died March 22, 1903. The living children are: Harry, born January 27, 1896; Josie, born December 11, 1897; and Gilbert, born March 29, 1905.

EDWARD C. SCHWARTZ (1886) has been the city recorder of Luverne since 1896 and is engaged in the tinning and heating business. He is a native Minnesotan, born at Rochester May 24, 1866, and is the son of William and Catherine (Glasow) Schwartz, who came to this country from Germany in childhood. They are now residents of Sargent, Mower county, Minnesota.

Edward was educated in the Rochester high school and for one term was a student at Miles college in the same city. After school days he learned the trade of tinner under A. T. Stebbens, now a state senator. He was twenty years of age when he first went to Luverne. He remained one year, was married, and then located at Zumbrota, Minnesota, where he carried on his trade. His next move was to Yankton, South Dakota, at which place he was engaged in the hardware and tinning business for two years; then for the same length of time he was located at Sioux City. In December, 1893, Mr. Schwartz returned to Luverne and has continued to make it his home. Until two years ago he was in the hardware business; now he devotes his entire attention to tinning and heating. He has made an enviable record as the city recorder.

In lodge circles Mr. Schwartz has always been an active worker. For the past fifteen years he has been the clerk of the local lodge of the M. W. A. and is also the noble grand of the subordinate lodge in the I. O. O. F. He is a Patriarch

Militant, the highest degree attainable in Odd Fellowship and is the commandant.

Our subject was married in Luverne on November 10, 1887, to Estella E. McGee, the daughter of William E. and Mary E. McGee. She was born in Farmer City, Illinois, October 26, 1867. Mr. and Mrs. Schwartz have two living children: Nina, born at Sioux City April 29, 1892, and Eugene, born at Luverne September 5, 1899.

GILBERT J. QUALLEY (1880) is one of Rock county's native sons, who has achieved success in his chosen vocation. The son of those early day Norwegian settlers, George G. and Julia A. (Reste) Qualley, he was born May 26, 1880.

On his father's Denver township farm Gilbert passed his youth, and at the near by district school he received his education. He commenced doing the work of a man at the age of fifteen and worked out as a hired hand for a number of years. At the age of twenty he rented land and commenced farming on his own account. For two years he was a resident and farmer of Lyon county, Minnesota, but returned to the county of his birth, and since 1907 has farmed the northeast quarter of section 8, Martin township, land which he rents from his father. Mr. Qualley is a director of school district No. 9 and is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Our subject was married at Luverne on September 30, 1902, to Clara Belle Streator, who was born September 8, 1884. She is the daughter of Richard and Luthnia (Judd) Streator, who homesteaded in the vicinity of Kenneth and are now residents of that village. To Mr. and Mrs. Qualley have been born the following three children: Gilma E., born September 25, 1903; George W., born October 1, 1905; and Ethel J., born March 12, 1908. The last named child died the day of her birth.

W. A. JOHNSON (1890), a prominent farmer and stock raiser of Luverne township, who owns the northwest quarter of section 4, first saw the light of day in Sandusky, Ohio, August 19, 1854. His mother, Charlotte (Johnson) Johnson, a native of Ireland, died when our subject was a child.

The father, William Johnson, born in New York, is also dead, having passed away in Meeker county, Minnesota, some twenty-three years ago.

When a child, Mr. Johnson of this biography accompanied his father to Wisconsin. The family remained there only a short time, moving to LaPorte county, Indiana, where for a number of years he lived with a brother. At the tender age of twelve our subject started to carve out his own fortune. In 1867 he journeyed alone to Fulton county, Illinois, where he was employed on a farm for a year. In McLean county, of the same state, he settled down for a period of more than twenty years. After growing to manhood he worked for a number of years at farm labor and at various other occupations, by the day and by the month, anyway to get along. In 1885 he rented a farm which he conducted for five years, or until 1890, the date of his arrival to Rock county. He first located on section 17, Luverne township, and five years later moved to a rented farm in Battle Plain township, which was his home for six years. Having bought an eighty acre farm in Meeker county, Minnesota, he moved there in 1901 and worked the place for the next four years. At the end of that period he returned to Rock county, bought his present farm, and has successfully conducted it to the present date.

The marriage of Mr. Johnson to Mary R. Arnold was solemnized February 22, 1888, at Cooksville, McLean county, Illinois. Mrs. Johnson was born in Wabash, Indiana, November 27, 1864, and is the daughter of Joseph D. and Catherine J. Arnold, both deceased, the former having died in 1890 and his wife in 1903. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have the following children: Edna Pearl, born December 19, 1888; Harry W., born March 29, 1891; Elmo R., born September 23, 1893; Irl W., born April 19, 1896.

Mr. Johnson has served as clerk of school district No. 10 ever since his return from Meeker county. For six years previous he was clerk of district No. 50. He is a member of the M. W. A. lodge of Luverne.

GEORGE BLEEKER (1890), one of the prosperous farmers of Kanaranzi township, is a native of Germany, where he was born,

in Osfresland, on November 6, 1866. When five years of age he accompanied his parents, Everet and Annie (Heikens) Bleeker, on the long journey to America. The mother of our subject died in Renville, Minnesota, at the age of sixty-four years. The father, now sixty-nine years old, is still a resident of that place.

The family's home for the first two years after the arrival in the new world was at Pekin, Illinois. Then a move was made to Grundy county, Iowa, and in that locality George Bleeker passed his youth and early manhood. In 1890, after having worked for a year in Dickenson county, Iowa, he made his advent to Rock county. For three years he worked out on different farms, then set up in farming for himself on a rented place. In 1902 he bought his own piece of land, the northwest quarter of section 18, Kanaranzi township, which he has improved and where he has since made his home. On November 28, 1910, Mr. Bleeker purchased two hundred acres of land near Willow Lakes, in Clark county, South Dakota, for which he paid \$70 per acre. He is a member of the Presbyterian church and at the present writing is a director of the same. He was a member of the board the first three years of its organization.

Mr. Bleeker's marriage to Annie Nuttbruck, of Lennox, South Dakota, took place in Lyon county, Iowa, January 13, 1899. To them the following named three children have been born: Tena, on February 20, 1901; Geerty, on January 13, 1903; and Harm, on January 4, 1904.

DUANE A. HULETT (1872), one of the proprietors of the West Side Automobile company, was born in Oswego county, New York, January 21, 1867, being the eldest son of Almon O. and Ann (Lounsberry) Hulett. They were pioneer residents of Rock county, emigrating from New York and locating on a homestead in Beaver Creek township when the subject of our sketch was only five years of age. Mr. Hulett's ancestry dates back to colonial days, he being a descendant of the Hulett's who took a prominent part in the life and struggles of the eighteenth century. A number of his ancestors were veterans of the revolutionary war, his grandfather was a sol-

dier in the war of 1812, and his father served in the civil war.

Mr. Hulett spent the early years of his life with his parents on the farm, securing an education such as those pioneer days afforded and giving his spare time to the study of machinery. December 4, 1889, he was married to Mary Snook, also a resident of Rock county and a daughter of J. L. Snook, Sr. Of this union four children were born, namely, Glenn, Leslie, Reva and Gordon.

In the spring of 1891 Mr. Hulett moved to Sioux City, Iowa, where he worked at the machinist's trade. Returning to Rock county the following year, he devoted five years to farming and threshing. In 1897 he formed a partnership with H. M. Young, of Sheldon, Iowa, where for two years they conducted a general repair and machine shop, returning to Luverne in the fall of 1899.

On October 1, 1909, Mr. Hulett engaged in the automobile repair business, and the following year there was organized the West Side Automobile company, composed of D. A. Hulett, S. B. Hulett and S. W. Rose. The firm conducts a garage on West Main street and has the agency for the following cars: E. M. F. 30, Flanders 20 and Parry car.

EMMET E. RAYMOND (1883) owns and farms the southeast quarter of section 32, Rose Dell township, and has been a Rock county resident for twenty-eight years. He was born in Branch county, Michigan, on November 1, 1854, and was reared on his father's farm in that county, acquiring an education in the district schools of his home precinct. He is the son of Volney and Sophia (Mitchell) Raymond, both natives of New York.

Emmet E. Raymond of this review started in life for himself at the age of twenty-one. He was for eight years engaged in farming in Tama county, Iowa, whence he came to Rock county in 1883. At that time he bought his present farm property, upon which he has ever since resided, with the exception of four years spent in Luverne. Mr. Raymond raises considerable stock and has exceptionally excellent horses. He served for ten years as a mem-

ber of the board of directors of his school district. He is a stockholder in the Independent Harvester company of Plano, Illinois.

In Blackhawk county, Iowa, on December 12, 1883, Emmet E. Raymond was united in marriage to Clara E. Nelson, the daughter of Eugene and Elizabeth (Fairborn) Nelson, both of English birth. Mrs. Raymond was born near Freeport, Illinois, on April 20, 1864. To these parents have been born a son and a daughter, Jessie May (Mrs. A. M. Godby), of Sherman, South Dakota, and Vernie H., a farmer in Springwater township.

JAMES A. KNOWLTON (1887) is in the service of Uncle Sam in the capacity of rural mail carrier on route No. 1 out of Kenneth. He was born September 13, 1874, in Dane county, Wisconsin, and is the son of T. E. Knowlton and Margery (Bethel) Knowlton, natives of New York and Pennsylvania, respectively. For the past seven years they have been among the respected residents of Kenneth. Six children, all living, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Knowlton: Jennie (Mrs. Frank Church), of Nobles county; Frank, of Luverne; Alfred, James A., Grant and Ed., all of Kenneth.

At the age of twelve James Knowlton moved with his parents to Rock county, and for a year the family lived on a farm one mile south of Magnolia, then locating in Nobles county, on section 19, Lismore township. Until he had attained his majority, our subject lived on the home farm and attended the district schools. At the age of twenty-one he began farming for himself in Lismore township, and continued in the occupation until 1905, the date of his settling in Kenneth. For two years he was associated with his father and brother Grant in the hardware and implement business under the firm name of T. E. Knowlton & Sons. On disposing of his interest to his brother, he became landlord of the Kenneth hotel. In June, 1907, Mr. Knowlton received his appointment as rural mail carrier and has continued in the service up to date.

In Luverne, on October 25, 1898, Mr. Knowlton was joined in marriage to Anna

Obele, a native of Mankato, Minnesota, where she was born February 6, 1880. They have five living children: James L., Lillian, Margery, Thomas and a baby girl. The eldest son, Vivian, died in infancy. Mr. Knowlton has served as clerk of the village school district since 1908. He is affiliated with the M. W. A. lodge of Magnolia.

P. D. WHYTE (1906), physician and surgeon, who is successfully engaged in the practice of his profession at Hardwick, has won for himself a reputation that classes him among the leading physicians of the county. He is yet a young man, but his years are no limit to his ability, and the exercise of his talents in the future will undoubtedly bring him still greater success.

Dr. Whyte is a native of Canada and was born at Lobo, Ontario, April 28, 1874. He lived in his native country twenty years. His early education was supplemented by high school training in the Strathroy Collegiate institute. When fourteen years of age he entered the drug business of Dr. William Saunders, the celebrated chief of the Canadian Agricultural department, who was his preceptor, and in whose employ he remained five years, a sufficient time to acquire a complete knowledge of the drug business. A year later he crossed the Canadian border and located in Chicago, where for four years he was the acting manager of a retail drug store. In 1898 our subject matriculated at the medical college of the university of Illinois, from which he was graduated in 1902. After serving as an interne in the Kedzie & Northwestern hospital of Chicago for a year and a half, he practiced for awhile in the city and then moved to Goodhue, Minnesota, where he resided and practiced his profession until 1906, the date of his arrival in Hardwick, where he has since built up a large and lucrative practice.

Dr. Whyte is the son of Peter and Christina (McMurphy) Whyte, natives of Scotland who went to Canada with their parents when children and settled near London, Ontario, and where they both died. They were the parents of four children, as follows: Lillie, Annie, Tina and Peter D., the subject of this review.

At London, Ontario, on November 14, 1893, Dr. Whyte was married to Bertha Hodges, a native of that city and the daughter of George and Anna Hodges, of English birth. Two children have blessed this union, Dorothy, born June 9, 1895, and Frank, born March 11, 1899. The doctor has served as county coroner, having been appointed to fill the unexpired term of Dr. S. J. Froschaug, of Hills. He is president of the village board of health, is a member of the Southwestern Minnesota Medical society and of the Sioux Valley Medical association and belongs to the I. O. O. F. and Maccabee lodges.

HERMAN HEMME (1893), a farmer and stock raiser of Rose Dell township, has been for eighteen years a resident of the United States, and that entire period has been passed in Rock county. He was born in Hanover, Germany, on the first day of February, 1879, the son of Henry and Lena (Koester) Hemme.

Our subject was born on a farm and departed from the fatherland to come to the United States at the age of fourteen. He was accompanied on the journey by his sister, Dora, and on landing at the metropolis they came at once to Rock county, where two brothers and a sister had preceded them. For fifteen years Herman worked out on different farms; then in 1908 he bought the southeast quarter of section 23, Rose Dell township, which he has since farmed. His wife is the owner of the southeast quarter of section 23, upon which the family home is made. All the land is thoroughly improved.

Mr. Hemme is a successful breeder of Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs. He is secretary of the Farmers Elevator company of Hardwick and is a member of the German Lutheran church and the I. O. O. F. lodge. He is musically inclined and is the director of the Denver Cornet band and has been a member of various other bands in the adjoining towns.

At Luverne, on March 3, 1903, our subject was married to Doris Piepgras, the daughter of Peter J. and Mary (Grawart) Piepgras, of Luverne. She was born in Benton county, Iowa, on February 23, 1885. Three children have been born to

Mr. and Mrs. Hemme, as follows: Alfred P., born August 1, 1904; Herbert H., born July 15, 1907; and Eldo, born November 17, 1909.

WILLIAM JACOBSEN, JR., (1879), cashier of the First National Bank of Luverne, is a native of Rock county's capital and the son of one of that city's pioneer and prominent men of affairs, the late William Jacobsen, who died in August, 1905. His mother, Milla C. (Erickson) Jacobsen, is still a resident of Luverne. Besides our subject there are six other children living who were born to these parents. They are Effie (Mrs. C. H. Christopherson), of Luverne; Dr. Leonard, of Seattle, Washington; Walter, of Howard, South Dakota; Nora, Jessie and Milton.

The date of the birth of William Jacobsen, Jr., is September 24, 1879. He was graduated from the Luverne high school with the class of 1897, after which he was a student in an Iowa college and also in a Minneapolis business school. He entered the employ of the First National Bank of which his father was for many years the president, in 1898 as a clerk and stenographer. Five years later he was made the assistant cashier and after the death of William Jacobsen he was elevated to the cashiership. At the same time the deceased president was succeeded by A. D. LaDue.

In Minneapolis, on October 4, 1905, the subject of this review was united in marriage to Blanche E. Garlick, a native of Winona. To this union have been born two children: William Horton and Milla Kara.

GEORGE WOLF (1905) is the proprietor of the "Evergreen Farm," located on the northwest quarter of section 21, Mound township, upon which he has maintained a continuous residence since coming to the county in 1905. Our subject is the son of John and Catherine (Holzinger) Wolf, both natives of Germany. John Wolf came to this country in 1852 and located in Illinois, where he died in 1884, at the age of sixty-three years. His wife is still living.

On his father's farm in Henry county, Illinois, George Wolf of this sketch was born October 31, 1861. He was educated

in that county, which continued to be his home until coming to Rock county in 1905. He commenced farming at the age of twenty-two and lived at home for twelve years after that, until his marriage in 1896. He had bought his present Mound township farm in 1902, three years before moving on the place. Mr. Wolf is responsible for the many extensive improvements found on the farm, which is rated second to none in the precinct. He has been unusually successful as a breeder of high grade stock.

At Leon, Whiteside county, Illinois, on November 25, 1896, George Wolf was married to Mattie M. Drain, who was born in the county of her marriage in 1868. The first child born to this union was George M., who was born November 13, 1897, and died at the age of eleven months. The six living children are: Willard, born February 16, 1899; Earl, born March 25, 1900; May, born May 14, 1901; Floyd and Lloyd, twins, born July 30, 1905; and Teddy, born December 17, 1907. Mr. Wolf and family are members of the Evangelical church. Our subject has been the treasurer of school district No. 59 since 1907.

SAMUEL L. CARLETON (1900), proprietor of a billiard and pool hall in Luverne, was born in Canada September 24, 1842. At the age of eight years he left his native country and located with his parents in Whiteside county, Illinois. There he lived eighteen years, working on his father's farm and attending the public schools.

At the age of twenty-six years Mr. Carleton moved to Story county, Iowa, bought a farm and engaged in farming there until 1899. Moving to Madison, South Dakota, that year, he bought a feed barn, which he conducted fifteen months. He engaged in the livery business at Salem five weeks, sold out and located in Luverne. This was in 1900. He built the large feed barn on Main street and conducted it two years. During this time he also built a barn at Parkston, South Dakota, which he put in charge of an employe. After leaving Luverne Mr. Carleton located at Ledgerwood, North Dakota, where he built a barn and conducted it three years, disposing of his property at Parkston during this time. After disposing of his interests at Ledger-

wood, he continued his home there for a time, and in the fall of 1907 returned to Luverne. He bought the billiard and pool hall of Vel Thoms and has since conducted it. He owns his home in Luverne and property in Sioux Falls and Pipestone.

Our subject is one of a family of nine children, of whom six are living. His father was Samuel Carleton, a native of Ireland, of Scotch-Irish parentage. His mother was Agnes (Allen) Carleton, of English birth. These parents came to Canada in the thirties and to the United States in 1850. The father died in Story county, Iowa, the mother in Pocahontas county, Iowa.

Samuel L. Carleton of this sketch was married in Story county, Iowa, November 24, 1870, to Amanda Decker, who was born in Ohio August 16, 1853. They have no children. Mr. Carleton is a member of the Odd Fellows and Encampment lodges.

CHARLES E. NELSON (1903), member of the board of commissioners of Rock county and a Kanaranzi township farmer, was born in Geneva, Illinois, February 17, 1858. His parents, Charles J. and Anna Nelson, were natives of Sweden and came to America in an early day. By occupation the father was a miller.

When the subject of this review was a child two years of age he accompanied his parents to Rockford, Illinois, and that was the family home nine years. In 1869 the home was established in Moline. When he was eleven years of age Charles Nelson left Moline to make his home with George Wilds, a farmer near Davenport, Iowa. In 1880 he rented that gentleman's farm and conducted it for several years. Thereafter, until his arrival to Rock county, Mr. Nelson made his home in the city and the vicinity of Davenport.

Upon his arrival to Rock county in 1903, Mr. Nelson rented the east half of section 21, Kanaranzi township, and there he has ever since made his home. With his sons he now farms over four hundred acres of land. He also has other business interests. He is president of the Kanaranzi Elevator company, is secretary and manager of the Kanaranzi Mutual Telephone company, and has stock in the Ashcreek Farmers Elevator company.



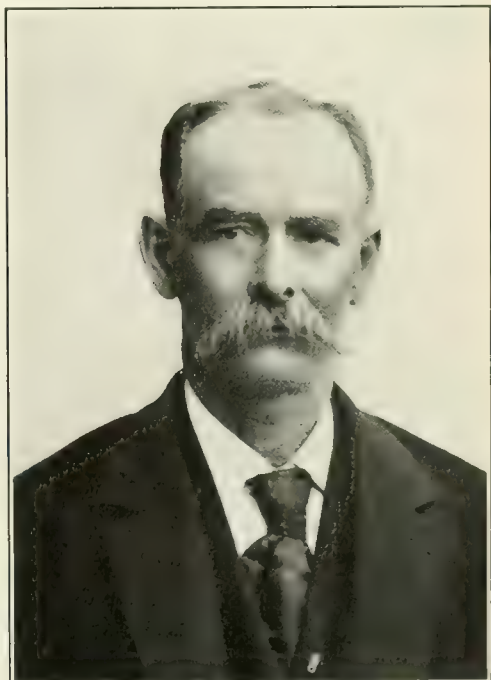
C. E. NELSON
Member of the Board of County Commissioners.



C. N. PHILBRICK
Superintendent of the Luverne Electric Light and Water Works Plant.



CARL J. WOODROW
Cashier of the First National Bank of Hills.



SAMUEL L. CARLETON
Proprietor of a Luverne Billiard Hall.

Mr. Nelson has also been quite prominent politically. He is a member of the board of county commissioners, was assessor of his township in 1908, and has been one of the directors of school district No. 60.

At Davenport, Iowa, on April 8, 1880, Mr. Nelson was united in marriage to Caroline Schupp. She is the daughter of John B. and Kresenzia Schupp, of Davenport. To Mr. and Mrs. Nelson have been born the following named ten children: Mary A. (Mrs. John F. Colwell), born January 17, 1881; Cora E. (Mrs. John P. Morgan), born January 5, 1883; Frank C., born October 21, 1884; Grace A. (Mrs. William Colwell), born September 19, 1886; Benjamin H., born July 9, 1888; Kate G., born September 18, 1890; George W., born April 23, 1892; C. Edna, born January 7, 1894; Clara E., born July 17, 1900; and Carl E., born December 16, 1907.

CHANDLER N. PHILBRICK (1876) is the superintendent and chief engineer of the Luverne Light and Water Works plant. He was born in Winona, Minnesota, March 20, 1866, and, his father dying when he was six weeks old, he accompanied his mother to Luverne in 1876 and has spent almost his entire life in that city.

Chandler was educated in the Luverne public schools. In 1886 he went to Wyoming, where he resided three years, working on a ranch near Granger and in the coal mines at Rock Springs. He returned to Luverne in 1889 and engaged with his stepfather, H. F. Kilgore, in the threshing business and in conducting a feed mill. Five years later he engaged in the painting and paperhanging business, which was his occupation until 1902.

In the year last mentioned Mr. Philbrick entered the employ of the Luverne Light and Power company as assistant engineer and was later promoted to superintendent of the plant and chief engineer. Ever since he was sixteen years of age Mr. Philbrick has been engaged more or less in mechanics, and at the age of seventeen he was granted an engineer's license. The plant of which Mr. Philbrick is now superintendent was built in 1891 as a water works plant. In 1894 the electric light plant was added and street and commercial circuits

installed. The building was enlarged in 1896 and new machinery and new boilers added. The plant has two compound duplex steam-driven pumps and a 150 horsepower Corliss engine, which is used to drive two alternating current generators for lighting purposes.

The parents of our subject were Chandler and Anna C. (Veldboom) Philbrick. The father was born in Maine. The mother was a native of Holland and came to America when twelve years of age and was married in 1856 in Winona, Minnesota. They moved to Rochester, Minnesota, in 1865, where Mr. Philbrick engaged in the lumber business and where he died in May, 1866. His widow moved to Luverne in 1876 and resided there until her death on May 25, 1906. Chandler is the youngest of four living children of this family, the others being Ola S. (Mrs. C. W. Shirley), of Madison, South Dakota; Lee J., of Superior, Wyoming; and Ada (Mrs. J. E. North), of Rock Rapids, Iowa.

Mr. Philbrick was married in Rock Springs, Wyoming, January 12, 1891, to Anna Coles, who was born in Pennsylvania July 1, 1867. Her parents, Fred Coles and Sarah (Brown) Coles, were natives of England and came to the United States in 1865, several years after their marriage. Mr. Coles is now a resident of Almy, Wyoming, his wife having died in 1905. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Philbrick as follows: Estelle P., born January 13, 1892; Fred C., born January 20, 1896; Shirley S., born April 10, 1900.

For two terms Mr. Philbrick served as a member of the board of aldermen of Luverne, having been elected to the first board after the incorporation as a city. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., M. W. A., Royal Neighbors and Rebekah lodges. He has taken the Encampment and Canton degrees in Odd Fellowship.

CARL J. WOODROW (1883), a banker of Hills, is Rock county born and bred. He is the only living son of I. S. and Mary M. (Pring) Woodrow, the former a native of Indiana and the latter of Ohio who settled in Clinton township in 1882. They are now residents of Luverne.

On his father's farm on section 36, Clin

ton township, a few miles south of Ash-creek, Carl was born May 25, 1883. He was a boy of ten years when the family moved to Luverne, where his education was received in the public and high schools. At the age of nineteen he entered the employ of an insurance company as bookkeeper and with which he was connected for three years. In 1904 he took up his residence in Hills and commenced his duties as bookkeeper for the First National Bank. He rose to the assistant cashiership and in January, 1910, was made the cashier, and since then has had the active management of the institution.

The First National Bank of Hills is the successor to the old Rock County Banking company, a private institution established in 1892 and which existed ten years, or until April, 1902, when a reorganization was perfected and the First National Bank came into being. The stockholders were practically all local men and the first set of officers elected were: P. E. Brown, president; J. N. Jacobson, vice-president; and J. R. Wright, cashier. The present officers are: President, C. H. Christopherson; vice president, J. N. Jacobson; cashier, Carl J. Woodrow; assistant cashier, A. A. Anderson. The board of directors consists of J. N. Jacobson, Goodman Anderson, John Nelson, K. K. Hellie, C. H. Christopherson, K. H. Hoyme and V. C. Mead. The original capitalization for \$25,000 has of late years been increased to \$50,000, and the bank is today one of the strong financial institutions of the county. The elegant home of the bank was erected in 1903 by the State Bank of Hills, which was merged with and became a part of the First National Bank some few years ago.

Carl J. Woodrow was married in St. Paul March 16, 1908, to Hazel Fitz, a native of the capital city, where she was born April 8, 1885. Our subject is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge.

THEODORE M. JACOBSON (1875) owns and farms the northwest quarter of section 36, Martin township, of which precinct he has been a resident since the date of his birth, June 6, 1875.

His parents, Niels and Sigrid (Sexe) Jacobson have been and are still respected

residents of Hills, having retiring from active labors on the beautiful farm built up through their efforts in Martin township. Niels Jacobson, a native of Norway, came to this country when a child of four years. His earlier homes were in Wisconsin and Winneshiek county, Iowa. It was in 1874 that he arrived with other pioneers in Rock county and homesteaded on section 20, the place of our subject's birth.

The boyhood days of Theodore Jacobson of this sketch were passed on the old homestead. After completing the course offered by the district schools, he was for two years a student at Augustana college, Canton, South Dakota, the later, in 1897, was graduated from the preparatory department of St. Olaf college, Northfield, Minnesota. Returning home after finishing his course, he entered the employ of his brother, who was engaged in the general mercantile business at Hills, and continued in the position until 1904. A year later he commenced his career as an independent farmer. He rented his father's farm two years, worked in the store of J. N. Jacobson one year, and then moved to his present location, which became his property in the spring of 1907.

Mr. Jacobson is, and has been for two years past, the secretary of the Rose Dell Farmers Mutual Fire and Lightning Insurance company. Politically, he was always been prominent. In the year 1904 he was a candidate for the office of county treasurer, but was defeated at the primaries by P. O. Skyberg. He was a supervisor of Martin township for a term of three years and is now the clerk of school district No. 40.

Mr. Jacobson was married in Martin township on the last day of May, 1900, to Betsy Anderson, who was born in Luverne January 6, 1882. Her father, Goodman Anderson, is a resident of Hills but her mother, Guri Anderson, is dead. The following children have been born to this union: Nels, born October 13, 1901; Goodman, born August 2, 1903; Gertrude, born June 16, 1904; Jacob, born March 8, 1908. Mr. and Mrs. Jacobson are members of the United Norwegian Lutheran church of Hills.

CARL J. MOE (1892), the leading contractor and builder of Hardwick, is a native of Norway, where he was born January 27, 1870. Carl is the youngest in a family of six, the children of Johannas and Sarah (Olson) Johannesen, both deceased, the former dying in Norway in 1877 and the latter in 1903.

After securing an education in the common schools of his native land, Carl mastered the cabinet maker's trade. He worked for a time as a farm hand and in a wholesale house in Honefos, and at the age of twenty-two crossed the Atlantict. He came direct to Rock county and resided awhile in Luverne. For several years he followed agricultural pursuits, then settled in Hardwick, his present home. He formed a partnership with Sam Burns in the contracting business and this union existed for four or five years. Then until the fall of 1909, when he entered into a partnership with H. T. Morxen, Mr. Moe was engaged in the same business alone. Many of the best and most substantial residences and business buildings of Hardwick and the surrounding territory have been erected by Mr. Moe. For two terms he was constable and marshal of the village. Mr. Moe is a charter member of M. W. A. lodge, No. 3851, and has served as the venerable counsel of the camp. He also belongs to the I. O. O. F. lodge.

On December 22, 1896, in Hardwick, Carl J. Moe was married to Petra Peterson, who was born in Norway May 31, 1878, and came to this country when a child three years of age. They are the parents of one son, Eddie Julius, born November 14, 1897.

Mrs. Moe is the daughter of Erick Peterson Hauge and Johanne Hauge, who came to the United States from Norway in 1881. They homesteaded land upon which the town of Hardwick was later platted. Then only a platform and a flag station marked the site of the present flourishing village. Mr. Hauge died soon after filing on his claim, and his widow completed the entry and proved up on the land, upon which she still lives. Mrs. Hauge is familiarly known as the "Mother of Hardwick" and is a quaint, interesting character. She retains possession of the home residence and lots, while the lands are deeded to her son Erick and son-in-law, Carl J. Moe. She is

the mother of four children: Mrs. Ragna Meyer, of St. Paul; Mrs. C. J. Moe, of Hardwick; Erick, of St. Paul; and Mrs. W. T. Murray, of Hardwick

HENRY M. HOLLING (1883), who farms the northwest quarter of section 11, Kanaranzi township, is the son of John and Minnie (Stahl) Holling, residents of Luverne. Rock county has been the chief home of our subject since he was a lad of seven years. It was in 1883 that Henry moved with his parents to a farm in Springwater township from Davenport, Iowa, in which city he was born April 17, 1876.

Henry made his home with his parents on the Springwater farm, attended the district schools, and assisted^e with the work until he attained his majority. Then he started to work out by the month for neighboring farmers. For four years he was employed in Jackson county and then took a position for a year with the Manchester Biscuit company in Luverne. Following this, he returned to the city of his birth, Davenport, where he was variously employed for a number of years. Returning to Luverne in 1902, for the next seven years he worked at the sand, lime and brick plant and at a variety of trades. In December, 1909, he removed to the place in Kanaranzi township previously described and has since been engaged in farming.

Mr. Holling was married at Davenport in November, 1903, to Hannah Preuss, the daughter of August and Emma Preuss, farmers in the vicinity of the Iowa city. Two children have been born to them, Malinda E. and Mabel. Mr. and Mrs. Holling are members of the German Lutheran church and of the K. D. W. U., a German social club.

SAMUEL H. MILLHOUSE (1880) is associated with C. A. Yeager in the grocery business under the firm name of Luverne Mercantile company. It was originally a stock company, Mr. Millhouse being one of the organizers of the enterprise in 1903. A year later in partnership with Mr. Yeager he bought out the rest of the interested parties, and since that time they have conducted one of the best appointed stores of

its kind in the county. The firm deals in groceries and produce exclusively.

A native of Schuylkill county, Pennsylvania, the subject of this biography was born September 4, 1852, of German-English parentage. His father, Christian Millhouse, was a native of the Keystone state, while his mother, Hannah (Rogers) Millhouse, was born across the seas in England. The Millhouses were pioneer settlers of Olmsted county, Minnesota, where they took a homestead in 1857. Christian Millhouse died in Luverne, to which place the family moved in 1879. His wife is still living and resides, in her seventy-eighth year, at Minneapolis.

Samuel first went to Luverne in 1880 and was one of the promoters and builders of the creamery, which he conducted for a year. He then moved to New Ulm, where he was engaged in the creamery business for nine years. From New Ulm he returned to Luverne and for nearly twelve years was in charge of the produce department in the big store of Nelson Brothers. He severed his connection with that firm to engage in his present line of business. Mr. Millhouse holds membership in the order of Modern Woodmen of America.

While residing at New Ulm, on October 7, 1882, Samuel H. Millhouse was joined in wedlock to Mary Gublrish, who was born in Germany December 14, 1858. Two sons and two daughters have been born to this union. Their names are George W., Ora C., Jessie and Anna, all of Luverne. George, clarinetist; Jessie, harpist; and Anna, violinist; compose the well known Millhouse Harp orchestra, an organization whose services are much in demand throughout this section.

ROBERT RUSSELL SWAN (1897), one of Magnolia township's prosperous farmers, is a native of Peeblershire, Scotland. December 7, 1847, is the date of his birth. He is the son of James Swan, a gardener by occupation, who died in Scotland seven years ago at a ripe old age, and of Minnie (Russell) Swan, who is also buried in the land of the Scots.

Our subject lived in Scotland until 1883, engaging for the most part in farming. In

the year mentioned he came to the United States, journeying direct to Lyon county, Iowa. For fifteen years that was his home.

In the fall of 1897 he came to Rock county and settled upon his present farm in Magnolia township. He operates a fine farm of 400 acres, and engages extensively in stock raising.

Mr. Swan was married in Scotland on April 15, 1868, to Grace Rae. One daughter, Mary, has been born to this union. She is the wife of Jacob Conrad, of Magnolia township. Mr. Swan is a member of the Presbyterian church of Luverne. Fraternally he is affiliated with the I. O. O. F., holding membership with the lodge at Little Rock, Iowa.

JOHN M. RUSTAD (1904) is a leading merchant of Luverne, where he is engaged in the furniture business. He first saw the light of day in Norway on October 8, 1863, and is one in a family of five children. The parents were Anton and Mary (Larson) Rustad, who came to the United States in 1864 and settled in Austin, Minnesota, where for many years the father was a clothing merchant, now living a retired life in that city, being in his seventy-fourth year. His wife, the mother of our subject, died in 1875, at the age of forty-five years. John has one brother, Lewis, and a sister, Ida, living. Two sisters, Inga and Annie, are deceased.

John was not yet a year old when he departed from the land of his birth and accompanied his parents to their new home in the land beyond the seas. He attended the public schools of Austin, Minnesota, and at the age of twelve years commenced the battle of life for himself. For twelve years he was employed as a clerk in the store of the Austin Furniture company, then formed a partnership and engaged in the business for himself, the firm name being Earl & Rustad. In 1904, Mr. Rustad disposed of his interests in Austin and bought the E. O. Cook store in Luverne, which he has since conducted in his own name, in the second building east from the Farmers National Bank corner. He carries a complete and up-to-date line of furniture, carpets, wall paper, etc., and is an experienced undertaker.

Mr. Rustad was married in Austin on

October 4, 1894, to Matilda Sundberg, a native of Sweden who came to America when a child. Fraternally Mr. Rustad is affiliated with the Masons, the Workmen and the Elks. In the first named order he has attained the degree of Knight Templar and the Shrine, of the Zuhrah Temple, St. Paul.

GUST GUNDERSON (1886), Springwater township farmer, was born in Nodre Trondhjem, Norway, September 7, 1867, the son of Gunder and Christine (Erickson) Klunness. He lived on his father's farm and received a common school education. At the age of nineteen, together with a sister, he made the journey across the Atlantic to America. They came to Beaver Creek township, Rock county, where he worked out on different farms for a period of nine years. Then Gust rented land in Rose Dell township, where he farmed four years. At the end of that time he located on his present farm, the northwest quarter of section 18, Springwater township. Mr. Gunderson is a member of the Synod Norwegian Lutheran church.

Our subject was married in Luverne on October 17, 1895, to Bertha Aaker, who was born September 11, 1876. Mrs. Gunderson is the daughter of Iver and Mary Aaker, of Beaver Creek township. Both parents are natives of Norway and came to America and Beaver Creek township in 1894. Mr. and Mrs. Gunderson have the following eight children: Grant W., born July 16, 1896; Marie L., born March 22, 1898; Elmer O., born April 21, 1900; Enga A., born January 24, 1902; Minnie C., born June 3, 1904; Gusta B., born May 29, 1906; Clarence M., born June 2, 1908; and Irene L., born November 27, 1909.

HOGEN OLSEN (1879) is a Martin township farmer, who has lived on and farmed the north half of section 18 since 1906. Rock county has been his home since he was a lad of sixteen years. It was at that age that our subject forsook the home ties in his native land of Norway and came to this country unaccompanied.

He was born in Hallingdal on the fourth day of January, 1863. He is the son of Ole and Margaret (Torkelson) Olsen, who lived

on a farm in the old country. There it was that Hogen's early youth was spent. For the first year after arriving in Rock county, he herded cattle for Rasmus Halverson. The next year he was engaged in the same occupation, his employer being Otto Otterson. Then for some time he hired out to different farmers and gained experience in agricultural methods which he was later to put into practice for himself. In 1894 he rented a place and set up in farming. He moved several times before locating on his present home in 1906.

Mr. Olsen was married at Luverne in 1888 to Christina Sibert. She was born in Stavanger, Norway, on September 13, 1868, and came to this country in 1886. This union has been blessed by eight children, as follows: Harry C., born December 28, 1888; Mildred O., born December 29, 1890; Oscar T., born January 21, 1893; Stephen S., born April 3, 1895; Martin A., born September 22, 1897; Christian H., born May 28, 1901; John E., born June 10, 1904; and Arthur E., born October 10, 1908. Mr. Olsen and family are members of the United Norwegian Lutheran church.

HALVOR H. WESTLIE (1882), of Martin township, was born in Westre Slidre, Valdres, Norway, June 20, 1847. He is the son of Halvor and Sigrie (Knutson) Westlie, both of whom are buried in the old country, the former having died in 1862 and his wife a year previous.

Our subject received a common school education and after the death of his parents was forced to rely on his own resources. He worked as a farm laborer in Norway until 1877, the year of his immigration to the United States. He followed agricultural pursuits in Mower county, Minnesota, five years, then returned to his native land for a short visit. While there he was married and shortly afterward came again to America and located with his bride in Rock county. Mr. Westlie bought a homestead right to a quarter section in Denver township, and there he resided nineteen years. On disposing of the same in 1903, he bought and moved on to his present farm, the southeast quarter of section 5, Martin, which has since been thoroughly improved.

Mr. Westlie served as a school director in Denver township.

In Norway, on May 28, 1882, Halvor H. Westlie was married to Maret Knutson, who was born January 2, 1859, and died in Martin township December 19, 1903. She was the daughter of Knute and Sigrie (Olsen) Helle, who still reside in Norway and are seventy-six and seventy-five years of age, respectively. To Mr. and Mrs. Westlie were born the following named children: Henry, Carl, Minnie, Clara H., Helena M., Emil R. and John O. Mr. Westlie and family are members of the Synod Norwegian Lutheran church.

ALBERT D. SMITH (1905), proprietor of the creameries at Hardwick and Edgerton, is a native of the Badger state, and was born in Otter Creek, Eau Claire county, August 10, 1870. He is the son of Seth and Ann (Vosser) Smith, natives of New York and Ireland, respectively. They settled in Wisconsin in the early fifties, where they both died.

Albert D. Smith was reared on his father's farm and attended the district school near by. His later education was received at the Augusta (Wisconsin) high school. In 1891 he enrolled in the dairy school of the Wisconsin state school of agriculture and there learned the butter-maker's trade. For a year thereafter he was employed in a cheese factory in Outagamie county, Wisconsin; then he established a creamery in his native town of Otter Creek, which he conducted until 1894. On selling out he moved to Elkhorn, Wisconsin, and was employed at his trade there five years. During the following year he was in Michigan; then, after a time spent in Springfield, Wisconsin, he became a resident of Minnesota. He built and operated the creamery at Wilmont for three years and in 1905 moved to Hardwick and bought the local creamery, which has been closed for some time previous. He has installed the latest and most practical equipment and machinery and enjoys a large patronage. He engages extensively in the manufacture of ice cream. Two years ago he came into possession of the creamery at Edgerton, which he controls from the headquarters at Hardwick.

Mr. Smith was united in marriage in Ot-

ter Creek, Wisconsin, on October 8, 1895, to Aura Crow, a native of that place, born October 15, 1870. They are the parents of one child, Marion, born at Elkhorn, Wisconsin, October 17, 1896. Mr. Smith holds membership in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

ALBERT D. PARKER (1901) is cashier of the Kenneth State Bank and has held that position since the organization of the institution. He was born in Crawford county, Wisconsin, September 3, 1875. When a two year old child Albert moved with his parents to Lincoln county, South Dakota, and on his father's farm lived until after his twentieth year. His elementary education was continued with a two years' course in the Baptist college of Sioux Falls and by a year spent as a student in the Sioux Falls Business college. At the age of twenty Mr. Parker commenced his business career by engaging in the general mercantile business at Harrisburg, South Dakota. He conducted that business until 1901, when he disposed of his property and moved to Kenneth, which has since been his home.

The Kenneth State Bank was established as a private institution in 1902 by R. B. Hinkly and C. J. Martin and had as officers: R. B. Hinkly, president; C. J. Martin, vice president; A. D. Parker, cashier. In August, 1903, Mr. Parker and Andrew Messner bought out the original owners and conducted the institution as a private bank until July, 1907, when it was incorporated as the Kenneth State Bank. The present officers are: Andrew Messner, president; B. Holverson, vice president; Albert D. Parker, cashier; John Engebretson, assistant cashier. These officers, together with Kittel Olson, constitute the board of directors. The bank is capitalized for \$12,000 and does a general banking, loan, real estate and insurance business.

Albert Parker is the son of Albert M. and Charlotte (Dunning) Parker, residents of Granite, Iowa. He was married in Lincoln county, South Dakota, December 9, 1896, to Lillie Messner, a native of that county, born November 27, 1876. They are the parents of three children: Inez, Albert and Oliver. Mr. Parker has served 25

a member of the school board for the past six years and is the present township treasurer. He is a member of the M. W. A. lodge.

RUFUS J. STEPHEN (1882), the proprietor of the City meat market, has been a resident of Luverne for nearly thirty years. He was born near Logansport, Indiana, February 15, 1861, and is the fourth in a family of seven children whose parents were Thomas and Nancy (Dodds) Stephen, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Irish descent. They were early day settlers in the timber country of Cass county, Indiana, and there Thomas Stephen died on June 8, 1902, at the age of seventy-two years. His wife still lives in Indiana with a daughter and has passed her eighty-ninth birthday. The children in the Stephen family beside Rufus J. are Jeannie, Emma (deceased), David, Edward, Nan and Irene.

Rufus was educated in the district schools and lived with his parents on the Indiana farm until arriving at his majority. He worked for a year in a butcher shop in Logansport before going to Luverne in March, 1882. He entered the employ of his brother, David Stephen, of the firm of Stephen & Gothel, butchers, and remained with them until their business was wiped out by fire. He then commenced work in the shop of Mike Mead, whom he bought out, taking possession of the business June 1, 1885. From that day to this the City meat market has been conducted by Mr. Stephen.

The meat market is located in the Arcade building, one of the city's finest and most artistically designed business blocks, and is finished with native red stone from the Blue mounds. This building was erected in 1892 by Mr. Stephen in company with Albert Barck. His place of business occupies the lower west portion of the building and his residence is on the second floor.

Our subject was married in Luverne on December 19, 1888, to Emma Minard, who was born in Pembroke, Canada, and who is the daughter of William Minard (deceased), one of the pioneers of Rock county. Her mother, Hannah (Dickson) Minard, lives with a daughter in Deadwood, South

Dakota. To Mr. and Mrs. Stephen have been born two children: Hazel, on February 16, 1890, and Clyde, on October 27, 1891.

Mr. Stephen holds membership in the Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias orders. He has filled all the chairs in the former lodge.

SEVER HAUGNESS (1893) owns and farms the east half of section 29, Rose Dell township. A native of Hardanger, Norway, his birth occurred on the second of October, 1867. He grew to manhood on the small farm of his parents, John and Engleiv (Skjeie) Haugness, and was educated in the country schools of his native land.

At the age of twenty-one Sever with his brother John set sail from the Norwegian vales for America, the land of possibilities. Our subject first located at Lansing, Iowa, where he was employed for a number of years by a gentleman named Gilbert Haug. In summer he was a fisherman on the Mississippi river, and in the colder seasons labored in the pineries. In 1893 he made settlement in Rock county, buying at the time, in partnership with his brother John, eighty acres on section 29, Rose Dell. The Haugness brothers built a small house and commenced farming in a limited manner. Two years later they added another eighty acres to their original holding, and in 1900 they purchased the northeast quarter of the same section. John Haugness died in 1897 and his share of the land reverted to his brother, who is now the sole owner of a well improved half section of land. Mr. Haugness owns stock in three farmers' co-operative establishments of Jasper, the elevator, the store and the creamery.

On the sixth of January, 1903, Sever Haugness took to wife Benta Sponheim, the daughter of Sjur and Johanna (Wamben) Sponheim, both of whom are living in Norway. In that country, on November 17, 1883, Mrs. Haugness was born, and she was nineteen years of age on her arrival to this country. The following four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Haugness: Svare J., born May 20, 1904; Engvald J., born December 8, 1905; Emma J., born September 7, 1907; Milla S., born August 10, 1909. The family are members of the United Norwegian Lutheran church.

JOHN PEDERSON (1888) is a well known farmer of northwest Springwater township. His nativity occurred in Soler, Norway, on the tenth of September, 1869. The parents of our subject were John and Gertu (Nelson) Pederson. The former died in the old country, where the mother still resides. She came to America in 1887, but in 1908 returned to her native Norway to spend her declining years.

John was reared on the small farm of his father in Norway and received a common school education there. At the age of nineteen he made the long trip to America all alone, and on arriving at New York came direct to Rock county and Beaver Creek township. He worked out by the month on various farms until commencing to farm for himself in 1896. He has rented and lived on his present place, the northwest quarter of section 2, range 47, since 1905.

The marriage of John Pederson to Olivia Halvorson was solemnized in Luverne on December 18, 1900. Mrs. Pederson was born in Norway in 1872. To this union have been born two sons: Carl G., born January 19, 1904, and Clarence O., born May 5, 1908.

ELLEN (CHAPMAN) JACOBS (1881) is the widow of George Jacobs, for more than a quarter of a century a prominent Luverne township farmer, whose decease occurred December 28, 1909. Mrs. Jacobs is a native of Vermont, and was born December 27, 1843, the daughter of Isaac and Pauline (Daggett) Chapman, who came from old Vermont stock.

Isaac Chapman with his family left the Green Mountain state to go to Wisconsin in 1862. For a year they resided in Madison, then moved to St. Croix county, where the father bought land and engaged in farming. Our subject lived with her parents until her marriage to George Jacobs, which was solemnized at Worthington March 25, 1881. Mr. Jacobs was born the tenth of January, 1825. Immediately after their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Jacobs began their happy wedded life in Rock county, to be first interrupted after twenty-eight years, by the grim reaper's summons to the faithful husband.

On coming to Rock county, Mr. Jacobs became the owner of the whole of section 9 and the west half of the southwest quarter of section 20, Luverne township. In 1890 he disposed of the north half of section 19 but his widow holds title to the remainder of the original estate, over 400 acres of finely improved land.

CHARLIE HILL (1890) bought the homestead right to the southwest quarter of section 10, Denver township in March, 1890, and that has since been his home. Not a tree or a building was to be found on the place when it came into Hr. Hill's possession, but today the observer is struck with a different condition and beholds one of the thoroughly improved farms of the precinct. Mr. Hill was a director of school district No. 54 for twelve years prior to 1908, when he was elected to the office of clerk.

The subject of this biography is a native of Pommern, Germany, and was born February 6, 1861, a son of William and Wilhelmina (Kruger) Hill. The father is still living in Wisconsin and is in his eighty-fourth year, but his mother died in 1900 and was sixty-six years old at the time. Charlie was educated in the country schools of his native land. At the age of fourteen he commenced working as a shoemaker, but the year following he immigrated to America with his parents. That was in the year 1876. The family lived in Chicago two years, and there he worked for most of that time in a brick yard. Settlement was then made in Rock county, Wisconsin. After pursuing an agricultural career of twelve years, Mr. Hill departed from Rock county, Wisconsin, to come to Rock county, Minnesota, where he has reaped many a bountiful harvest. He owns stock in the Farmers Elevator company of Hardwick.

On August 22, 1888, in Janesville, Wisconsin, our subject was married to Carrie Olson, the daughter of Peter Peterson, and a native of Dane county, Wisconsin, where on April 17, 1864, she was born. To Mr. and Mrs. Hill have been born ten children: Amanda, born January 21, 1890; Lilly, born October 5, 1891; Emma, born June 19, 1893; Carrie, born April 30, 1895; Hettie, born November 11, 1896; Alma, born October 25, 1898; Freda, born July 28, 1901; George,

born February 27, 1903; Mabel, born January 6, 1904; and Elda, born November 6, 1905.

W. E. E. GREENE (1891), the well known architect and contractor of Luverne, is a native of Huntingdon county, Pennsylvania, where he was born June 3, 1861. He lived in the county of his birth and attended a select school until after his sixteenth year; then, in the spring of 1878, he went to Scott county, Iowa, where he was engaged in teaching school for three years. He returned to Pennsylvania for a year, then came west again and located at Sioux Falls. There he worked at the carpenter's trade, which he had learned from his father, and did some contracting. Since 1891 he has been a resident of Luverne.

From the start he has conducted a successful contracting and drafting business. For the past twelve years he has also been engaged in the plumbing and heating business. In 1907 Mr. Greene admitted George Delate into partnership in the conduct of the plumbing business, a union which still exists under the firm name of Greene & Delate. In 1910 the firm moved into an elegant pressed brick building they erected that spring. Many of the principal buildings in Luverne have been planned and their construction superintended by Mr. Greene, among them the Manitou hotel, Carnegie library and the county jail. He has also designed many of the best buildings in Worthington, Jackson and other towns and cities in this section of the state.

Our subject is the son of Henry S. Greene, a contractor and a native of Vermont. He married Louisa Houck a Pennsylvanian by birth, and from the time of their marriage they made their home in Newburg, Huntingdon county, Pennsylvania. The father died in 1891, at the age of seventy-six years. The mother is still living at the old home and is in her eighty-second year. Henry S. and Louisa Greene were the parents of eight children, of whom W. E. E. Greene of this sketch is the sixth. The eldest son, Milton, and the two oldest daughters, Mary and Martha, are dead. The living children besides our subject are: Frances M. (Mrs. Hillary Chilcote), of Mammoth Spring, Arkansas; Eugene H., of Kansas

City, Missouri; A. V., of Rack Rapids, Iowa; and Aden S., of Pennsylvania.

In Flandreau, South Dakota, in September, 1884, Mr. Greene was married to Louisa J. Steinfeldt, who was born in Wisconsin and who is the daughter of Henry Steinfeldt. Mr. and Mrs. Greene are the parents of the following named children: Inde L. (Mrs. E. A. Thiel), of Pierre, South Dakota; Henry S., a student at the university of Minnesota; Milton M., Dorris S. and Carroll.

Mr. Greene is a member of the M. W. A. and K. P. lodges. He owns business and residence property in Luverne.

NERI NERISON (1885) is a progressive Martin township farmer who owns the southeast quarter of section 23 and also eighty acres of section 35. Norway is his native land and he was born in Boe Telsmarken November 24, 1870. His father, Anund Nerison, was born January 16, 1835, and died February 6, 1908, at the age of seventy-three years. His mother, Kari (Kittelson) Nerison, has been deceased since February 16, 1890. She was born April 27, 1837.

Neri Nerison of this review was brought up on a farm and educated in the common schools of Norway, which continued to be his home until attaining the age of fourteen years. He came to the United States and direct to Rock county with his parents in 1885, they arriving at their destination on May 30. Soon after settling in Rock county Neri was confirmed. For the first four years he worked out on the farm of his cousin, Jake Nerison, in Martin township. Then for six years he farmed 204 acres which he had bought just over the line in Lyon county, Iowa. After quitting the Lyon county farm, for several years he worked at the carpenter trade during the summers and operated a threshing rig during the harvest seasons.

He disposed of his original holdings in Lyon county, but soon after invested in a quarter section adjoining his former land on the south and this he rented out for a number of years or until he sold the piece in 1902. The fall of the preceding year he came into possession of his present holding on section 23, Martin township. After his second marriage in 1901 he rented

the Goodman Anderson farm and conducted it for two years, then moved on to his own land, where he continues to reside and prosper.

Mr. Nerison has been married twice. He was first wedded to Sophia Enger on October 3, 1894. She died on March 12 of the following year. On January 23, 1901, he was married to Anna, the daughter of Goodman Anderson, of Martin township. Mrs. Nerison was born December 23, 1876, on the old homestead. They have two children, Norman, born January 5, 1902, and Garine, born September 27, 1908.

For seven years Mr. Nerison served as constable of Martin township. For the past two years he has held the office of treasurer of school district No. 40. During the year 1897 Mr. Nerison returned to his old home in Norway and remained for a six months' visit.

CHRISTIAN C. MOE (1872) has spent all but three years of his life as a resident of Rock county. He is the only son of Christian and Andrine (Skyberg) Moe. In the family were seven daughters, as follows: Mary (Mrs. Ole Antonson), Jennie (Mrs. August Norby), Minda (Mrs. Otto Nelson), Christina (Mrs. John Nelson), Ida (Mrs. Nels Nelson) and Clara, who resides at home.

Christian, of this sketch, is a native of Norway and was born in Brandvold Soløe on March 13, 1869. The year of his birth he accompanied his parents in the journey from the old world to America. The family settled first in Mitchell county, Iowa, where they lived on a farm two years. In 1872 the elder Mr. Moe joined the vanguard of pioneers that were to reap the first fruits of prosperity in Rock county, destined to be a garden spot of southwestern Minnesota. He homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 22, Martin township, and it was there that Christian grew to manhood. As a youth he attended the district school during the winter sessions, assisting the rest of the year with the work on the farm. Becoming of age, he rented land near the home place and engaged in farming until 1908, the date of his settlement in Hills. For a year and a half he clerked in the general store of Olaf Skyberg, and

in March, 1910, he entered upon his present duties in the store of J. H. Finke, dealer in implements.

Colton, South Dakota, was the scene of his marriage on May 26, 1896, to Josephine Severson, born December 5, 1874, the daughter of Osbjorn and Curie Severson, of Colton. Her parents are natives of Norway. Mr. and Mrs. Moe have three children: Carl A., born January 8, 1897; Anne Henrietta, born April 5, 1900; and Ruth C., born October 28, 1901.

For eight years Mr. Moe served Martin township as its assessor. He was also for several years a member of the school board. At present he is the marshal of the village of Hills. He is a member of Trinity church and has been its treasurer for three years.

WILLIAM C. RADEMACHER (1901), of Springwater township, was born in Plymouth county, Iowa, August 3, 1873, the son of Henry and Elizabeth (Lembcke) Rademacher. The parents settled in northwestern Iowa at an early date, having come from Mecklenburg, Germany, their birthplace.

William was brought up on the farm of his father and was educated in the district school near by. In 1897, when in his twenty-fourth year, he rented land and commenced his career as an independent farmer, a vocation in which he has achieved deserved success. Four years later Mr. Rademacher made his advent to Rock county. Together with his brother, Albert, he purchased three quarter sections of most productive soil in Springwater township. He makes his home on the northeast quarter of section 35, range 47, and makes a specialty of breeding Duroc-Jersey hogs. Mr. Rademacher and family are members of the German Lutheran church.

Our subject was married in Iowa October 13, 1895, to Christina Kounkel, the daughter of Michael and Christina (Hafner) Kounkel, both natives of Wisconsin. Mrs. Rademacher was born in the Badger state, in Grant county, on May 26, 1879. To Mr. and Mrs. Rademacher have been born the following four sons and four daughters: Viola M., born March 11, 1897; Earl M., born June 14, 1898; Ralph W., born March 15, 1900; Mabel R., born March 26 1902; Flor-

ence A., born February 4, 1904; Willie J., born August 23, 1906; Fred A., born May 13, 1908; and Fern E., born April 17, 1910.

RALPH L. TOSTENRUD (1887) is one of the youngest and a progressive one of farmers of Kanaranzi township. Rock county is the scene of practically all the achievements of his life. Ralph was born in Osage, Iowa, on May 4, 1884, but while an infant accompanied his parents to a new home in Nobles county, Minnesota. He is the son of Ole L. and Mary (Isaac) Tostenrud, residents of Kanaranzi.

In 1887 the family settled in Rock county, and on his father's farm our subject spent his early youth. At the age of sixteen he began the battle of life for himself. For a year he was employed in the store of Nick Lenz, at Ellsworth; then until attaining his majority he engaged in farm labor. In 1904 he accepted a position with the Davenport Elevator company, with which concern he was connected for four years as a buyer at Kanaranzi and at Ward, South Dakota. Then he returned to Rock county, rented a farm and engaged in his chosen vocation. In the spring of 1909 he moved to the southwest quarter of section 13, which continues to be his home.

Mr. Tostenrud is one of the directors of school district No. 62 and belongs to the Modern Woodmen lodge. He is unmarried.

ROY E. CHESLEY (1879) farms a half section of Beaver Creek township's productive soil, the home being on the southwest quarter of section 23. The father of our subject was Edwin Chesley, a Rock county homesteader, who was born in Canada September 18, 1832. He came to Rock county in 1874, homesteaded in Springwater township, and died January 30, 1884. The mother of our subject is Mrs. J. R. Sanders, of Beaver Creek. Her maiden name was Maria Carkson.

Roy Chesley is a native of the county, having been born in Springwater township March 29, 1879. After his father's death in 1884 he located in Luverne, where he resided until 1900, making his home with his mother. Since the last named date he has been engaged in farming in Beaver Creek

township, having been on the present farm since 1904. Mr. Chesley owns stock in the Farmers Elevator company of Beaver Creek, and for several years past he has served as a director of school district No. 9.

On March 16, 1904, in Beaver Creek township, Mr. Chesley was united in marriage to Ella Walkup, a daughter of Charles and Evangelyn Walkup, of Beaver Creek. Mrs. Chesley was born on the farm upon which she now lives on April 9, 1880. Mr. and Chesley have one child, Evangelyn, born February 28, 1905.

GEORGE W. TURNER (1893), a merchant of Magnolia, has been a resident of Rock county for the past eighteen years. Crawford county, Indiana, is the place of his birth, which occurred February 29, 1864. His father, A. H. Turner, of English parentage, is now deceased. His wife, the mother of our subject, Eliza (Culver) Turner, is a native of Kentucky, and now makes her home with her two sons, Will and Albert, in Magnolia township.

Until attaining his majority George lived on his father's farm in the Hoosier state and assisted in its management. At the age of twenty-one he married and moved to the town of Alton, and for four years filled the office of postmaster, receiving the appointment from President Cleveland. At the expiration of his term he returned to manage the home farm and engaged extensively in fruit growing and buying. In 1893 Mr. Turner moved to Rock county and for the first year farmed in Magnolia township, then became a resident of the village. For a period of nine years he was in the employ of the Farmers Elevator company as assistant grain buyer. For a time thereafter he managed an elevator in Luverne, not moving his family from Magnolia, however. Again he was a farmer and stock raiser until November, 1909, when he established the general store in Magnolia which he has since conducted. He carries a complete line of high quality merchandise, including dry goods, groceries, shoes, etc.

Mr. Turner has for the past twelve years been secretary of the Magnolia Farmers Elevator company. He served his village efficiently as recorder for nine years and was a member of the school board for one

term. He is affiliated with the M. W. A. and Royal Neighbors lodges.

On January 26, 1887, in Crawford county, Indiana, Mr. Turner was joined in marriage to Nora B. Romine, a native of that county and a daughter of Elias and Martha (Bullington) Romine. Mrs. Turner was born October 10, 1864. They have one child living, Violet, born April 9, 1889.

HALVOR SAVOLD (1880), who is the possessor of a half section of Martin township's productive soil, is a son of Samuel O. and Annie (Hagelle) Savold, natives of Norway. The father came to America in 1847 and first settled near Chicago, moving later to Jefferson Prairie, Wisconsin, and then to Winneshiek county, Iowa. The mother came to America in 1850 and settled in Winneshiek county, Iowa. They were married in 1852.

It was in the latter location that the subject of this review was born July 1, 1865. There he grew up on his father's farm. He attended the district schools, following his elementary education with a three years' course in Upper Iowa university at Fayette.

In 1880 Mr. Savold commenced his residence in Rock county and it has been a continuous one since that date. For several years he taught school during the winters and did farm work in the summers. Deciding on farming as his life vocation, in 1882 he purchased the southwest quarter of section 18, Martin township, and that has been his home since. He has built up one of the finest improved farms in the township. He makes a specialty of breeding and raising Poland China and Chester White swine. In 1899 he came into possession of the southeast quarter of section 13, range 47. For several years he served on the township board and for three years was the clerk of school district No. 33. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran Synod church of Hills.

Mr. Savold was married in Martin township on June 16, 1881, to Mary Tolefson, the daughter of Tollef and Maret Tolefson, both natives of Norway. The following seven children have been born to them: Sam T., born December 4, 1882; Minnie A., born June 16, 1884; Elmer L., born June 12, 1886; Henry M., born November 23, 1888;

Tilda J., born May 3, 1891; Ella S., born April 23, 1895; and Roy H., born July 15, 1898.

HANS J. THOMTE (1882), a leading tailor of Luverne, has for thirty years been an active participant in the growth and development of Rock county and is today one of her highly esteemed citizens. He is a Norwegian by birth, his nativity occurring August 8, 1842, and is one of a family of eight children, whose parents, John and Engberg Thomte, lived and died in Norway.

Mr. Thomte received a good education in his native land. Immediately on leaving school he was apprenticed to learn the tailor's trade, of which he became a master, and up to the time of his coming to America in 1869 he followed that line of work in his native land. For thirteen years previous to his arrival in Rock county he was a resident of Lansing, Iowa. In 1882 Mr. Thomte homesteaded on section 14, Vienna township, and five years later moved with his family to Luverne in order to secure for them better educational facilities. He entered the employ of Schuyler's department store as the manager of the clothing and tailoring department. Some few years later he purchased the tailoring business of his employer, moved it to another building and added a line of furnishings. Mr. Thomte lost all he had invested as the result of a disastrous fire, which completely wiped out his business. Since then he has been engaged exclusively in the tailoring business, and has his shop in the east room of the Rock County Bank building.

Mr. Thomte has been married twice. At Lansing, Iowa, our subject was wedded to Karee H. Hansen, a native of Norway, who died in 1900. To this union were born the following nine children, all of whom are living: John, Herman and Carl, engaged in the clothing business at Lisbon, North Dakota; Adolph, of Lisbon; Ada (Mrs. Alfred Olson), of Canada; Engar and Clara (twins), the former a clerk in a Big Stone county, Minnesota, store, the latter a resident of Luverne and the wife of John Lamb; George, a farmer of Kenneth; and Agnes. On July 9, 1909, Mr. Tompte married Carrie Austin, a native of Allamakee

county, Iowa, and a daughter of Jacob Austin, a Rock county pioneer.

For nine years Mr. Thomte faithfully served as a member of the Luverne board of education. He holds the Knights Templar degree in the Masonic order and is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

JESSE L. GOEMBEL (1885) has spent all except the first three years of his life as a resident of Rock county. He is the son of Peter and Christina (Rapp) Goembel and was born August 3, 1882, at Genesco, Illinois, at which place his father was following the trade of carpenter.

The elder Mr. Goembel with his family came to Rock county in 1885 and bought the northeast quarter of section 8, Magnolia township. Jesse grew up on that farm, receiving his education in the public schools. In 1906 he rented the home place and has farmed it continuously since that date. He is treasurer of school district No. 6.

Mr. Goembel was united in marriage at Luverne on May 23, 1906, to Luverne Kreps. She is the daughter of Fred and Ida Kreps, of Luverne, who came from Illinois in 1882. One child, Belva L., was born to this union on August 21, 1907.

WILLARD W. ADAMS (1834) farms the west half of section 2, Vienna township. Chickasaw county, Iowa, is the place of his birth, which occurred September 23, 1879. Both his parents are now residents of Olney township, Nobles county. David Adams, the father, was born in Wisconsin in 1832, while the mother, Malinda (Impson) Adams, is a native of Indiana.

Willard was five years of age when he accompanied his parents from their Iowa home to Rock county. The family located on the southwest quarter of section 4, Magnolia township, and thereafter were on different farms of the same precinct until 1904. Our subject was educated in the rural schools and at the age of nineteen left the shelter of the parental roof to struggle with the world for himself. For three years he was employed as a farm hand in the Iowa county of his birth, then returned to Rock county for the winter. He then

went to Roberts county, South Dakota, where he resided for a short period. Since then Mr. Adams has been permanently located in Rock county. He married in 1903 and immediately thereafter set up as an independent farmer in Vienna township. A year later he moved to section 24, Vienna, and at the end of another twelfth-month settled on his present place. His efforts as a farmer and stock raiser have been crowned with success.

At Adrian, Nobles county, on March 31, 1903, our subject was joined in wedlock to Maud Etta Dean, the daughter of W. C. Dean, of Magnolia township. She was born in Indiana March 15, 1884. Mr. and Mrs. Adams are the parents of three sons and one daughter, as follows: Alta May, born December 5, 1904; Ray Edward, born August 6, 1906; Lyle Otis, born July 24, 1908; Donald Eugene, born May 13, 1910.

KNUTE K. HELLIE (1882), one of the oldest and most highly respected citizens of Hills, is the manager of the Tuthill Lumber company's interests at that place and is also the proprietor of the Hills Cement Block and Tile works. He is a native of Norway, born February 18, 1867, the son of Knute J. and Sarah O. (Sjefte) Hellie, both of whom still live in Norway. To these parents have been born seven children, who besides Knute of this sketch are Jerger, who lives on the home place in Norway; Mary (Mrs. H. H. Wesley), formerly of Hills, now deceased; Ole K., of Albert Lea, Minnesota; Olaf, of Albert Lea; Mrs. Tom Hilgersen, of Jasper; Ingborg, of Norway.

Knute K. Hellie was a boy of sixteen years when he bade farewell to native land and cast his fortune in the new world. His education was commenced in Norway and was continued for awhile after coming to America. Knute located at Albert Lea, Minnesota, where he began to learn the carpenter's trade and worked at it for a year. Since 1882 Hills has been the home of our subject. For fifteen years he was the leading contractor in the village, and during those years many of the handsome residences and most of the public buildings, including the Hills school, Trinity church, and others as substantial, were

erected by Mr. Hellie. He entered the employ of the Tuthill Lumber company as the local manager of its yards in 1905. This position he has held continuously since, with the exception of a period in 1907, when he returned to Norway for a visit with his aged parents.

The Hills Cement Block and Tile works, established by Mr. Hellie in 1908, has been a successful enterprise from the start, and the output of the plant now is inadequate to the demand for its superior products. A number of buildings in Hills, including the Christianson Bros. furniture store block and Dr. Paulson's residence, are constructed of cement blocks from Mr. Hellie's plant. Besides property in Hills, Mr. Hellie is the owner of 240 acres of land north of Beaver Creek. He is a director of the First National Bank and a member of the village council.

At Sioux Falls, on November 11, 1892, Mr. Hellie was married to Sarah Rovang, the daughter of Gilbert T. and Annie Rovang, pioneers of Martin township and now residents of Hills. Mrs. Hellie was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, November 28, 1868. The following six children have been born to these parents: Clifford G., Alma S., Grant J., Geneva S., Esther I. and Sylvia C. One daughter, Geneva S., died in 1896 at the age of two and one-half years. Mr. Hellie and family are members of the Synod Lutheran church.

CARL HOUG (1876) is a native-born farmer of Rock county. He is the son of Jens J. and Magdaline Houg, both of Norwegian birth, and was born on his father's Mound township homestead January 23, 1876, and on that farm he grew to manhood. He was educated in the district schools and early entered upon an agricultural career. He farmed rented land to begin with, but since 1903 he has lived on his own farm, the northwest quarter of section 22, Rose Dell township. He bought that land in 1897, but did not permanently settle upon it until after improvements were made in the year mentioned. Mr. Houg raises lots of cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator company, and the Co-operative Mercantile company, of Jasper. Our subject served one

year as assessor. He belongs to the Synod Norwegian Lutheran church.

Carl Houg was married in Allamakee county, Iowa, on December 22, 1903, to a native of that county, Helen Hanson, who was born February 27, 1883. She is the daughter of Andrew and Maren (Hundstad) Hanson, natives of Norway and Allamakee county, respectively. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Houg. The first one died in infancy and the following three are living: Olga M., born July 20, 1905; Joseph A., born July 16, 1907; and Esther M., born May 3, 1910.

JAMES ALBERT McCANN (1905) farms 280 acres of land on section 17, Beaver Creek township, and is a man who has experienced an eventful career. A native of Pompey Hill, New York, he was born October 22, 1876, the son of Hezekiah and Elizabeth (Savage) McCann, natives of Ireland and Canada, respectively. His mother, who married William Jones in 1897, is a resident of Omaha, Nebraska. J. A. McCann of this sketch has two full sisters living in Omaha. They are Harriet Matilda (McCann) Barton, aged thirty-seven years, and Helen Elizabeth (McCann) Herron, aged thirty-one years. He also has one half sister, May Bell Jones Marion. He also has one step sister, aged thirty-four years, and two stepbrothers, aged thirty-two and twenty-eight years. One sister, Jennie, died in Dawes county, Nebraska, at the age of six years.

James has been fatherless since he was a lad of eight years. The family moved from New York three years after the birth of our subject and located in the city of Chicago, where the elder Mr. McCann breathed his last. After a five years' residence in the Illinois metropolis, the mother with her children moved to Nebraska and homesteaded in Dawes county.

In the free, open air of a frontier country James developed into robust youth, fond of darling. For three years, from 1890, he roamed the plains of Wyoming, Colorado and Montana as a cowboy with the Bar T outfit. His skill as a rider of all sorts and conditions of horses led to an engagement with the famous Buffalo Bill's Wild West show, with which he was



JAMES A. McCANN

In Cowboy Garb When in the Employ of
the Trans-Mississippi and Interna-
tional Exposition at Omaha.



ARTHUR P. ROSE

Author of the History.



K. K. HELLIE

Proprietor of the Hills Cement
Block and Tile Works.



P. T. PETERSEN

Licensed Auctioneer and Real Es-
tate Dealer of Hardwick.

connected for six years, and in that time toured every section of this country and England. During the whole of the Trans Mississippi exposition at Omaha, in 1898, Mr. McCann was stationed there as an expert horseback performer.

He closed his engagement with Buffalo Bill at Urbana, Ohio, on October 14, 1899, and immediately thereafter located in Omaha, where he was employed by an ice company until 1905, when his residence in Rock county began. He rented the same year the land he now farms with success. He devotes considerable attention to the raising of stock, especially horses and mules, of which he breeds a large number annually.

James A. McCann was married at Council Bluffs, Iowa, on November 4, 1901, to Maggie Ohm, who was born in Germany August 10, 1874, and came to the United States three years later. She is the daughter of Jurgen and Frances Ohm, the latter of whom has been dead since 1879. The father lives with his daughter Maggie. In the family is another sister, Lena Steffen, wife of William M. Steffen, of Rock county, whose biography is to be found elsewhere in this volume. One son, Amos, was born to Mr. and Mrs. McCann, on February 1, 1905.

PETER T. PETERSEN (1902), of Hardwick, devotes his attention to the auctioneering and real estate business. He is a native of Germany, born in Idstedt, Schleswig, October 1, 1855, and is one in a family of eight children, namely: Peter T., of this sketch; Maria, of Germany; Anna (Mrs. J. F. Matthiesen), of Denver township; Jurgen, who died in 1905 at Manning, Iowa, at the age of forty-six years; Dorothea (Mrs. C. G. Matthiesen), of Denver township; Christian, of Moscow, Idaho; and Henry, a traveling salesman of Pipestone, who travels for a Minneapolis firm. The parents were Jurgen and Christina (Petersen) Petersen, who came to the United States in 1881 and settled in Tama county, Iowa. Mr. Petersen died there in 1890 at the age of sixty-eight years. After her husband's death Christina Petersen made her home with her daughter, Mrs. C. G. Matthiesen, a half mile west of Hardwick, and

there she passed away in 1904 at the age of twenty-four years.

Peter received a common school education in his native land and at the age of fifteen was confirmed. On attaining his majority he enlisted in the German army and served two years. His career in America commenced in the year 1880. He located at Dysart, Tama county, Iowa, where two uncles were living. After a year spent as a laborer on the farms of that county he moved to Crawford county, in the same state, and farmed rented land until the fall of 1887. His next move was to Manilla, Iowa, where he was engaged in the saloon business for five years, part of the time working as an insurance agent. For ten years previous to coming to Rock county in 1902, Mr. Petersen farmed in Crawford county.

For the first two years in Rock county he farmed a half section of land on section 6, Mound township; then in the spring of 1904 he moved to the east half of section 23, Denver township. He had invested in Hardwick village property and in the fall of 1908 his residence in that village began. He has been an auctioneer since 1903 and that business he still follows in connection with dealing in real estate.

Mr. Petersen was married at Denison, Iowa, on August 19, 1882, to Emma M. Yetter, who was born in Davenport, Iowa, March 23, 1865, and is the daughter of John and Celia Yetter, both deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Petersen are the parents of four living children: J. Henry, born February 9, 1883; John F., born August 12, 1884; Alwina (Mrs. A. E. Brandenburg), born February 2, 1886; and Peter T., Jr., born September 6, 1887. One son, George, born April 11, 1889, died March 30, 1890, at Manilla, Iowa.

Among other interests Mr. Petersen is president of the Hardwick Farmers Elevator company and has held the office for the past six years. He is at present serving his second term as justice of the peace, and he was also justice of the peace in Denver township four years. While a resident of Crawford county, Iowa, Mr. Petersen was a school director for nine years. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen and Royal Neighbors orders and of the

German Lutheran church. He also holds membership in the German Understuelzung Verein, of Manilla, Iowa.

RALPH L. GIBSON (1896), of Beaver Creek township, is a New Yorker by birth, has nativity having occurred in Allegany county March 20, 1879. His parents, Alfonso and Ellen (Sutton) Gibson, were also natives of the Empire state.

Ralph lived on his father's New York farm and attended the district schools until seventeen years of age. Then, in 1896, the family moved from the east to Rock county and Beaver Creek township. Our subject hired out as a farm laborer for the first six years, then went to Murray county, where he rented and farmed land three years. For the past four years he has lived on the northeast quarter of section 25, range 47, Beaver Creek township. He also works the northwest quarter of section 30, which makes a half section under Mr. Gibson's management. He is the substitute mail carrier on route No. 1, out from Beaver Creek.

In Beaver Creek township, on Christmas day, 1907, Ralph L. Gibson was joined in wedlock to Alice Stearns, who was born March 15, 1886, and is a daughter of Willis J. and Gertrude (Pinney) Stearns, residents of Beaver Creek township. To this union have been born two children: Gertrude E., born November 20, 1908, and Jessie, born April 15, 1910. Mr. and Mrs. Gibson are members of the Presbyterian church.

FERDINAND KOPP (1903), one of the successful farmers of Mound township, was born in Scott county, Iowa, December 24, 1869. The father of our subject was a carpenter, Mathias Kopp, who came from Switzerland when a young man and made his home in Davenport, Iowa. He died there at the age of sixty-five years, when Ferdinand was fifteen or sixteen years of age. The mother of our subject was Anna (Soehren) Kopp, who was born in Germany and who died in Scott county, Iowa, in 1896.

Until he reached his majority Ferdinand Kopp lived at the parental home in Buffalo, Iowa, and in that village he was educat-

ed. In 1891 he left home and started out in life for himself, going to Cedar county, Iowa, where for the next four years he worked out as a farm hand. The next eight years of his life were passed farming rented land near Bennett, Iowa. He prospered, and in 1903 he came to Rock county, where he bought his present farm and where he has since resided. His home farm is the southeast quarter of section 29, Mound township, and he also owns the southwest quarter of section 22, Springwater township. Most of the improvements on the home farm have been made by him, it having been only slightly improved when he bought. He has a fine grove and a small orchard on the place. He engages in grain farming and to quite an extent in stock raising. Mr. Kopp is a member of the M. W. A. lodge of Luverne, and for the past five years he has served as clerk of school district No. 12.

In the city of Davenport, Iowa, on March 13, 1895, Mr. Kopp was married to Lena Fitzer, who was born in Cedar county, Iowa, November 1, 1870. These parents have two children, Chris, born January 10, 1897, and Elsie, born October 8, 1899.

GEORGE D. NELSON (1874), a successful farmer and breeder of Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs, has been a Rock county resident since he was a child in his sixth year. He was born in Helgeland, Norway, December 24, 1868, the son of Nels and Christina (Hanson) Marken.

George D. Nelson was left fatherless while an infant, and shortly after the family bereavement he accompanied his mother and sister in the long journey from the land of his birth to the much-heard-of land of opportunity across the sea. Mrs. Nelson and her little family were residents of Sioux Rapids and Beloit, Iowa, for three years and then found their way to Rock county. The mother of our subject in 1874 married Lars O. Bakken, who had homesteaded the southwest quarter of section 9, Martin township, which has been George's home since that time. Since 1895 he has had the active management of the place and in addition farms the north half of section 9, which he bought in 1904. He also owns a part interest in 700 acres of

Pipestone county land. Mr. Nelson is a director of school district No. 39. He owns stock in the State Bank of Hills, the Farmers Mercantile company and in the Hills creamery.

The marriage of George D. Nelson to Rena Olson occurred November 7, 1894. The following nine children have been born to these parents: Clara R., born June 21, 1896; Nels H., born September 18, 1897; Dora H., born October 1, 1899; Lenora A., born May 23, 1901; Olaf N., born February 26, 1903; Josephine P., born January 19, 1905; Grant R., born November 8, 1907; Ruby H., born December 8, 1909; Alma J., born February 1, 1911.

JOHN FRAHM (1896), of Kanaranzi township, first saw the light of day in Schleswig, Germany, on the twenty-ninth day of August, 1869, and is the son of Ferdinand and Johanna (Stammer) Frahm. The father died in the old country seven years ago, but the mother still lives and makes her home in Kanaranzi.

The greater part of the first sixteen years of John Frahm's life were spent as a student in the village school. Then, after serving an apprenticeship to a master blacksmith, he followed the trade for four years. The final four years previous to his immigration to America were spent as an enlisted soldier in the kaiser's army. In 1892 his career in this country began. For three years he worked on a farm near Davenport, Iowa. Then he made Rock county and Kanaranzi township his goal. After hiring out for a year, he rented a place and set up as an independent farmer. In 1898 he moved to his present location, the southwest quarter of section 12.

Mr. Frahm's marriage of Adaline Blauck occurred in Rock Island, Illinois, in March, 1897. They are the parents of six children: Ferdinand, Martha, Leonard, Adolpn, Mattie and Emma.

EDWARD E. MALONEY (1881), a Luverne dealer in grain, fuel and feed, is a native Minnesotan, his birth having occurred in Fillmore county on February 12, 1877. He is one in a family of six children whose parents are Edward and Johanna (Fitzger-

ald) Maloney, both natives of Ireland. They were married in Fillmore county, Minnesota, and farmed there until 1881, when they located in Rock county. The father bought the northwest quarter of section 5, Clinton township, where the family made their home until 1903, since which time they have been residents of Luverne.

Edward was a child of three years when he accompanied his parents in the removal from Fillmore county to Rock county. He received an education in the district schools of Clinton township and made his home on his father's farm until March 1, 1908, when he moved to Luverne. He managed the home place two years previous to his removal. In May, 1909, he bought the elevator, grain and fuel business of the K. W. Jargo estate, which he has conducted up to date. His elevator has a capacity of 35,000 bushels of grain.

Mr. Maloney was married in Luverne to Agnes Donovan, who was born in Illinois December 17, 1883, and who is the daughter of Daniel and Catherine (Daly) Donovan. Two children have blessed this union: Lyle Edward, born July 6, 1907, and Linnus Donovan, born April 22, 1906.

OSCAR M. AUSEN (1881) has passed all but the first five years of his life as a resident of Rose Dell township, of which he has long been a leading agriculturist. He was born in Norway December 30, 1876, and five years later came to this country and to Rock county with his parents, M. H. and Ellen (Torgeson) Ausen, now of Jasper. The former parent is now in his fifty-fifth year and the mother is a year younger.

M. H. Ausen homesteaded on section 22, Rose Dell township, and on this farm our subject grew to manhood. He worked out on different farms until his marriage in 1900. He then rented the northwest quarter of section 26, remaining thereon five years. He then moved to his present farm, the southeast quarter of section 2, land which he rented for several years from his father-in-law, and then bought. In addition, he now rents and farms the southwest quarter of the same section. Mr. Ausen raises some full-blood stock.

In the Ausen family besides our subject are five sons and two daughters, as follows: Thorvold, who farms the old Rose Dell homestead; Erick, a Rose Dell farmer; Ludvick, of Luverne; Ole, of Garretson, South Dakota; Albert, Dora and Clara, all of Jasper.

On October 6, 1900. Oscar M. Ausen was married to Helen Norvold, the daughter of P. H. and Maren Norvold, of Jasper. They are the parents of one son, Walter, born December 31, 1905, and one daughter, Edna, born November 4, 1910. Mr. and Mrs. Ausen are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Rose Dell.

ANDREW J. EBERLEIN (1890), Clinton township farmer and successful breeder of Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey swine, first saw the light of day in Kane county, Illinois, on December 14, 1863. His father, Andrew Eberlein, and mother, Barbara (Bower) Eberlein, are both natives of Germany. The former died in 1887, but the mother still lives with a daughter in Altman, South Dakota.

The first ten years of Andrew's life were spent in the county of his birth. Then the family moved to a farm near Parkersburg, Iowa, and there on his father's place he grew to manhood. He worked out for two years after reaching his majority, at the end of which time he returned to his home and took charge of the farm after his father's decease. He remained there until 1890, the year of his arrival in Rock county. He traded the old Iowa farm for a farm on section 15, Clinton township, and operated it for a number of years in partnership with his brother Ed. Since 1899 he has conducted it alone and now has one of the up-to-date farms in the precinct, with good buildings and modern improvements. The whole north half of section 15 has of late become his property. He has taken a marked interest in the civic and school affairs of his township and at present is a member of both the town board and the board of school district No. 65. He is a member of the Woodmen lodge.

Mr. Eberlein's marriage to Viola Vannatta, of Plymouth county, Iowa, took place in Clinton township in August, 1895. They are the parents of three living children: Jay

O., born August 9, 1897; Beulah O., born January 27, 1899; and Erma E., born December 31, 1901. One son, Lee E., born June 23, 1896, died April 26, 1903; and a daughter, Vira C., born October 1, 1905, passed away July 5, 1906.

EUGENE V. BARCK (1881), who conducts a finely appointed barber shop in Luverne, has been a resident of that city, with the exception of two years, for the past three decades.

He is the second son in a family of five children born to Thomas and Mary (Vandercar) Barck, both natives of the state of New York. Thomas Barck was born in the city of Oswego and Mary Vandercar in the vicinity of Troy. Before the civil war both moved west to Illinois with their parents and at Bloomington, in 1871, they were married. That Illinois city was the home of the Barcks until settlement was made in Luverne in 1881. There Mrs. Barck died on August 20, 1888. Mr. Barck is now a resident of Seattle, Washington, to which place he moved in 1904. The following, besides the subject of this sketch, are the children born to these parents: Louis T., of Mitchell, South Dakota; Raphael, of Portland, Oregon; Albert, of Huntington, Oregon; Thomas, of Seattle. One son, Henry, passed away during infancy.

At Bloomington, Illinois, on August 9, 1875, the birth of Eugene V. Barck occurred. He was six years of age when the family departed from Illinois and established a residence in Luverne. After securing an education in the Luverne public schools, he commenced working at the trade he has ever since followed. After completing his apprenticeship in the shop of Sydney Dyer, he was employed for several years in the Luverne shops; and in 1898 he went to Butte, Montana. He remained there two years and then returned to Luverne, and until he opened his present shop in the Dobell building he was employed by Tom J. McDermott. He commenced business on his own account in May, 1901. Mr. Barck has been a member of the Luverne fire department since 1893 and was chief of the company for two and one-half years. He is an Odd Fellow by fraternal affiliation.

At Luverne, October 13, 1897, the subject of this review was joined in marriage to Jessie Allen, who was born in Rock county's metropolis on May 25, 1878. To this union one daughter, Hazel Mary, was born September 28, 1898. Mrs. Barck is a daughter of William and Cassie (Jaycox) Allen, early settlers of the county. William Allen has been dead since 1905; his widow resides in Luverne.

INGEBRET K. ONERHEIN (1888) has owned and farmed the west half of the southwest quarter of section 2, range 47, Beaver Creek township, since 1888. South Berghuus, Norway, is the scene of his birth, which occurred January 12, 1846. Both his parents, Knut and Annie (Engebretson) Onerhein, are buried in the old church.

Our subject was in the first year of his manhood when he left the land to come to America. He located in Illinois and found employment at farm labor, working out by the month. In 1887 he returned to his Norwegian home, but remained only until early in the following year. Then he established his present residence in Rock county, buying the land before described, which he continues to farm.

While living in Illinois, in 1884, Mr. Onerhein was married to Margeretta Eltrein, who was born, January 4, 1860. Three children have blessed this union, namely: Anne, born February 25, 1885; Knut, born February 22, 1886; and Enga, born January 2, 1895. The family are members of the Synod Norwegian Lutheran church.

H. A. KUEHL (1901) owns and farms 160 acres of land on section 15, Mound township, where he has lived during the last ten years. His birth occurred in the hamlet of Oldenberg, province of Holstein, Germany, on December 18, 1850. His father, Claus Kuehl, died at Davenport, Iowa, in 1906. His mother, Lena (Ruege) Kuehl, is a resident of the town of Renwick, Humboldt county, Iowa.

The subject of this biography departed from native land and accompanied his parents to America at the age of twelve years. He located with them at Davenport, Iowa,

and in that locality he was destined to pass the next forty years. He lived in the city ten years, much of the time working at the butcher's trade, then engaged in farming within ten miles of Davenport. Mr. Kuehl became identified with Rock county interests in 1901. The first year he conducted the Mound farm of R. B. Hinkly, then successively rented and worked the J. E. Leslie and the Dysart farms, the latter for a period of four years. He bought the land he now owns in 1907, moving thereon the following year, and since that time has vastly improved the place. He is a large breeder of high grade stock.

On October 1, 1874, at Davenport, Iowa, our subject was joined in marriage to Lena Egger, who was born in Scott county the tenth of October, 1856. The following eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Kuehl: John, of Luverne; Willie, of Mound township; Henry, Eddie, Albert, Lizzie (Mrs. John Welzenbach), of Mound township; Carrie (Mrs. John Meinfelder), of Omaha, Nebraska; and Tillie (deceased). Henry, Eddie and Albert live at home.

H. A. Kuehl has efficiently served as supervisor of his road district for the past three years. He was for two years a director of school district No. 45. He belongs to the Hardy-Gardy lodge of Davenport.

WILLIAM R. MINARD (1886) is the editor of one of Rock county's representative journals, the *Hardwick Star*. Of this paper he became the publisher in August, 1910, purchasing the plant from E. D. Lum, the former proprietor, and has since conducted the *Star* in a most creditable manner and in the best interests of his home town and the county at large.

Mr. Minard is a Rock county boy. His parents, William and Johannah (Dixon) Minard, both natives of Ontario, Canada, the former of Irish-French descent and the latter of English-Irish parentage, were numbered among the Rock county settlers of the seventies. The Minards maintained a continuous residence of thirty-two years in Rock county, departing in 1908 to make their home in Deadwood, South Dakota. In that city William Minard, Sr., passed

away in October, 1909. Johannah (Dixon) Minard still resides there. The following eight children, all living, were born to this esteemed couple: Fred J., of Missoula, Montana; Hattie Olson, of Mankato; Emma Stephen, of Luverne; John J., of Stockport, Iowa; George, of Spearfish, South Dakota; Harry, of Missoula, Montana; Edward, of Deadwood, South Dakota; and William R., of this review.

The birth of our subject occurred in Luverne on October 22, 1886. He was educated in the public schools of that city and early in life entered the employ of the Rock County Herald and became thoroughly proficient in the printer's art. For some time William was employed on various papers in South Dakota; then in 1903 he went to Omaha, where he resided four years, during which time he was employed at his trade by the Omaha Printing company and the Reese Printing company. He left that city to go to the Black Hills country, to which his parents later moved. For two years Mr. Minard was connected with the Daily Pioneer Times, of Deadwood, in the capacity of night foreman. From that locality he returned to Luverne, where he resided until his connection as publisher and editor of the Star commenced.

At Sibley, Iowa, on June 5, 1910, William R. Minard was joined in marriage to Edith Bramley, of Little Rock, Iowa. Mrs. Minard is a native of Lyon county, Iowa, and a daughter of Joseph H. Bramley. Fraternally our subject is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen, Royal Neighbors, Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias orders.

HEINRICH STUCKINBROKER (1903). Among the thoroughly improved farms of Denver township, one of large and substantial buildings and trim appearance, betokening the success and prosperity which has befallen the owner, is the one belonging to the gentleman of this review. Mr. Stuckinbroker is the owner of 400 acres of Denver township's most productive soil, located on sections 11 and 14. He has achieved distinction as a stock raiser and always maintains large herds of the highest grades, averaging ninety cattle, twenty-one horses, 100 hogs and a few sheep. He

is the owner of the celebrated Belgian stallion, Geldzoeker.

Heinrich was born in Holstein, Germany, the fourth day of May, 1859. Both his parents, John and Christine (Hohen) Stuckinbroker, are deceased and lie buried in Germany, the former having died in 1902 and the latter in 1878. The father owned a brick yard, in which our subject worked two and a half years. In his younger days he was engaged in farm work and teaming, and for two years following 1881 he was an enlisted soldier in the kaiser's army.

In 1884, at the age of twenty-five, Mr. Stuckinbroker departed from native land and joined the tide of immigration to the United States. He worked for a month in a Chicago brick factory, then pushed on to Belle Plaine, Iowa, where he was located for three years, employed successively in railroad construction work, in a blacksmith shop, and on the section of the Northwestern railroad. After a year spent as a farm laborer in Benton county, Iowa, he went to Lyon county, the same state, where he commenced his career as a farmer, first on rented land, then on his own property. He sold out in Lyon county in 1903, and since then has been identified with progress in Rock county, continuously on the farm of his present residence.

At Rock Rapids, Iowa, Steena Smith, also a native of Holstein, Germany, who came to this country in 1890, became the wife of Heinrich Stuckinbroker. Six children have been born to this union, namely: John, born June 9, 1892; Herman, born December 17, 1893; Olga, born March 8, 1897; Harry, born March 15, 1901; Willie, born May 30, 1903; and Henry, born June 24, 1906. The family belong to the Lutheran church of Hardwick.

HENRY ROLFS (1891) owns and farms the north half of section 20, Battle Plain township, and is one of the stock raisers of that precinct. He has large herds of graded Shorthorn cattle and Chester White hogs. He is the son of John T. and Anna (Engelland) Rolfs, natives of Germany, who came to America in 1868 and settled in Benton county, Iowa.

In Benton county, Iowa, on July 15, 1871, the birth of Henry Rolfs of this review oc-

curred. He was reared on his father's farm and educated in the country schools of his native county and at Tilford's academy, of Vinton, Iowa. His first acquaintance with Rock county was acquired in the summer of 1891, when he came here to work and remained until after the harvest season. He spent the winter at his Iowa home, but returned to Minnesota's richest county the following spring to make permanent settlement. He bought the northwest quarter of section 10, Mound township, upon which he moved after his marriage in 1894. Two years later he became a Springwater township farmer, and in 1903 he sold his farm and bought his present land, the north half of section 20, Battle Plain township, upon which he has since resided. Mr. Rolfs is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator company of Hardwick. With his family he belongs to the German Evangelical Lutheran church.

Henry Rolfs was married at Luverne on December 17, 1894, to Matilda C. Hoeck, the daughter of Lawerance and Lena (Grovert) Hoeck, natives of Germany. She was born in Benton county, Iowa, July 16, 1877. Four children have been born to this union, as follows: Emma, born October 12, 1897; Harry, born October 22, 1900; Amelia, who was born August 23, 1903, and died in infancy; Walter, born March 15, 1909.

THOMAS P. WOODLE (1885), at present a resident of Mead county, South Dakota, was for many years a resident of Rock county, removing therefrom in the spring of 1910. Mr. Woodle is a native of Green county, Wisconsin, and was born July 19, 1849. At the age of six years he moved with his parents to Fillmore county, Minnesota territory, when that county was wild and only thinly settled, the nearest post-office to the family home being twenty-two miles distant—at Decorah, Iowa. In Fillmore county young Woodle secured an education in a little log school house and worked on his father's farm.

At the age of seventeen years Mr. Woodle left Fillmore county and located in Allamakee county, Iowa, and two years later moved to Newton county, Missouri. He was in the south six years, most of the time in

Newton county, Missouri, but parts of three years of this time were spent in Texas, Arkansas and Kansas. During this period of his life he worked at carpenter work, painting and farm work. Mr. Woodle was married in Central City, Linn county, Iowa, in 1876, and in July of that year he returned to Fillmore county, Minnesota, and continued to make his home there until 1878. That year he located in Pipestone county, taking a pre-emption claim in Fountain Prairie township. Two and one-half years later he sold out and located in Sac county, Iowa, driving a bunch of cattle down there during the winter of 1880-81 and being caught in the severe blizzard of October 15, of that memorable winter season.

After living a short time in Sac county, Mr. Woodle located at Marcus, Iowa, lived there two and one-half years, spent one summer in LeMars, and then, in 1885, took up his residence in Luverne, and from that time until the spring of 1910 he was a resident of Rock county, living in Luverne all of that time with the exception of the year 1893, when he was on his farm in Mound township. He worked at the carpenter's trade for a number of years, and during the last eighteen years of his residence in Luverne was in the real estate business.

Mr. Woodle is one of a family of nine children born to Thomas and Rachael Woodle, both natives of Pennsylvania. They moved west and were among the first settlers of Green county, Wisconsin. The father of our subject who was the first judge in Fayette county, Iowa, died in that county. Mrs. Woodle married Joseph Woodle, her first husband's brother, and died in the state of Oregon.

The subject of this biography was married at Central City, Linn county, Iowa, April 10, 1876, to Victoria A. Blount, a native of New York state. Seven children were born to this union, as follows: Myrtle M. (Mrs. William Waldrip), born March 6, 1879; Guy E., born January 17, 1881; Beulah (Mrs. A. J. Thomas), born October 8, 1883; Lerla (Mrs. J. J. Puiser), born April 6, 1885; Edna (Mrs. Anthony Grisey), born May 5, 1890; Vena I., born August 14, 1892; Victoria N., born June 20, 1894. Guy E., the second child, served

a nine months' enlistment in the Spanish-American war. Mr. Woodle is a member of the M. W. A. lodge.

EDWARD A. WALKER (1907) owns and farms the northeast quarter of section 21, Beaver Creek township. He is a native of Athens county, Ohio, as were both his parents, William C. and Lizzie A. (Reynolds) Walker. William C. Walker was born of native English parents September 27, 1842, and died January 18, 1893. During the civil war he served four years with the Seventy-Fifth Ohio volunteer infantry. The mother of our subject is now a resident of Storm Lake, Iowa.

Edward A. Walker of this review was born in the town of Athens on March 6, 1872. Eight years later he moved with his parents to a farm in Macon county, Illinois, which was his home until reaching man's estate. His education in the district and public schools of Macon was supplemented by a course in the Northern Illinois normal school at Dixon. During his twenty-first year, the one of his father's death, with two brothers, one sister and his mother, Edward moved to Storm Lake, Buena Vista county, Iowa, where he was destined to reside fourteen years. He was engaged in farming during that entire period. Since the spring of 1907 he has lived on and farmed his present Rock county land, which he had come into possession of the preceding fall.

At Storm Lake, Iowa, on January 20, 1897, our subject was joined in marriage to Minnie C. Doxsee, the daughter of John W. and Margaret Ann Doxsee, the latter of whom is living. A native of Buena Vista county, Mrs. Walker was born October 22, 1877. Two children have blessed this union: Lloyd W. D., born March 31, 1899, and Vadna O., born December 23, 1906. Mr. Walker is a member of the I. O. O. F. and M. W. A. lodges, holding membership in the lodge of the first named order at Storm Lake, and in the Truesdale, Iowa, lodge of the Modern Woodmen.

JAMES TAYLOR (1888), is a well known and successful farmer of Rose Dell township, which has been his home for the past

twenty-two years. He was born in Lancashire, England, on June 18, 1843, the son of John and Martha (Bury) Taylor. The father was by trade a mason and stone cutter and died in 1844, the year following the birth of our subject. His mother later came to America, in 1870, and died at Jackson, Minnesota, on August 4, 1879. James is the youngest in a family of two sons and two daughters. The other son, Robert, was killed in East India in 1858 while serving in the English army. Jane died in 1869. The surviving daughter is Ann (Mrs. J. Brooks), who has always lived in England.

James Taylor of this biography received a grammar school education in the land of his birth, of which he was a resident for the first twenty-three years of his life. He crossed the sea to America in 1866 and for two and a half years thereafter he worked as a weaver in the cotton mills of Fall River, Massachusetts. He was next located for a short period in Fayette county, Iowa, then found his way to Jackson county, Minnesota. He homesteaded in Enterprise township and lived on his claim for ten years. Leaving that county in 1881, he was engaged for the next seven years in railroad and stone cutting work at different places. He has plied his craft in localities all the way from Massachusetts to Montana.

In 1888 Mr. Taylor made his advent to Rock county. He was employed in the erection of the court house at Luverne, then for a short time worked in the quarries at Pipestone. Deciding to settle permanently in the garden spot of southwestern Minnesota, in October, 1889, he bought a farm of 120 acres on section 16, Rose Dell township. This he has farmed until recently, when he rented out the land, but he still resides thereon. Mr. Taylor has also other farm property, 200 acres in Marshall county, Minnesota, and also a quarter section claim of Indian land in Red Lake county.

CHARLES E. NUTTING (1902) is the proprietor of the Vienna bakery and restaurant of Luverne. He is a native of Vermont and was born in the town of Versha, Orange county, August 15, 1861. He is the son of William W. and Marcia (Abbott)

Nutting, who were both descended from early day families of the Green Mountain state. Charles E. is the second in a family of five children, one of whom, Raymond, is dead. The other three are Dr. W. W. Nutting, of Boston; Mrs. C. H. Flowers, of Minneapolis; and Mrs. Hubbard Elkins, of The Wiers, New Hampshire.

Mr. Nutting attended the schools of his native town and continued to live there until after his twentieth birthday. He then departed for the west, locating first at Aurora, Illinois, where he was engaged for some time in the grocery business. For three years thereafter he lived in Cherokee, Iowa, where he was likewise a grocer and also was interested in a retail meat market. For nine months previous to settling in Luverne in 1902, our subject was located at Mitchell, South Dakota. During the year mentioned, Mr. Nutting became the owner of his present business, buying the bakery and restaurant and the building in which they were contained from L. D. Manchester, now of the Manchester Biscuit company, Sioux Falls. Mr. Nutting conducts a model restaurant and carries a complete line of confectionery, etc. He makes a specialty of fine baking, and Nutting's bread, a superior product, is known and demanded in a large territory tributary to Luverne.

At Dallas, Texas, in 1886, Charles E. Nutting was married to Cora Mills, a native of Jackson, Michigan. This union existed until May 14, 1908, when Mrs. Nutting was summoned by death at the age of forty-two years. Three children were born to these parents: Ray, Carl and Forrest. Mr. Nutting holds membership in the Masonic, Knights Templar, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen orders.

OLE NERGORD (1890), of Vienna township, is a native of Gulbrandstan, Norway, where he was born March 6, 1870. He is the son of Ole and Gjoa (Feten) Grendstu, the former of whom is still hale and hearty at the age of eighty-five and conducts the old farm in Norway. The mother died in 1898.

Ole received a common school training in his native land and at the age of twenty forsook home ties and journeyed to America and direct to Rock county. He worked

out for three years in Clinton township; then, in partnership with his brother Ole, he farmed rented land in the same precinct for two years. He was employed for a year on the Hazzard farm in Mound township, leaving there to farm with Peter Remme in Vienna township. On the dissolution of that partnership, Mr. Nergord was employed for a time by Kittel Olson, and then spent four years in the city of Minneapolis, where he was a street car motor-man. He returned to Rock county and since 1903 has farmed the land he now rents, the southeast quarter of section 4 and the northeast quarter of section 9. He raises considerable stock. For a number of years our subject has efficiently served as the road overseer of his district. He is a member of the Blue Mounds United Norwegian Lutheran church.

On September 14, 1901, Ole Nergord was married to Bertha Larson, who was born in Hedemarken, Norway, May 9, 1878. The ceremony was performed at Minneapolis. To these parents have been born four children: Hazel, born February 7, 1903; Odmeear, born December 29, 1904; Agnes, born April 30, 1907; and Edwin, born May 29, 1909.

MRS. OLE TWETON (1880) is the widow of Ole Tweton, for many years a prominent farmer of Rose Dell township, whose death occurred September 27, 1907. He was the son of Ole and Annie Tweton, who came from Norway and settled in Wisconsin at an early date, going from there to Lansing, Allamakee county, Iowa. Ole Tweton, Jr., was born in Wisconsin.

The subject of this review is the daughter of Gullick and Carn (Peterson) Oestern, pioneer Norwegian settlers of Allamakee county, Iowa, where she was born March 3, 1856, and where she was reared and educated. Miss Caroline Oestern was married to Ole Tweton on December 4, 1877, at Lansing, Iowa. Three years later the young people established a home in Rock county. After renting land four years, they bought the southwest quarter of section 4, Rose Dell township. There the husband died, and there the family home is still maintained.

The family register records the birth of

nine children (five sons and four daughters) to Mr. and Mrs. Tweton. Of this number, four have died. The following is the complete list: Alma H., born February 21, 1879; Clarinda M., born July 10, 1881; Emma J., born September 14, 1883, died May 27, 1891; Otto, born October 10, 1885, died the day following; Helmer V., born November 6, 1886; Gerhard W., born May 25, 1889, died February 23, 1891; Gerhard, born November 22, 1893, died November 28, 1893; Emma J., born September 17, 1891; Edwin O., born November 24, 1895.

CHRIS FITZER (1903) has for the past eight years been a successful farmer and stock raiser of Luverne township. He is a native of Cedar county, Iowa, where he was born July 25, 1869, and is the son of Chris and Magdalena (Horn) Fitzer, who are both buried in Cedar county, the former dying March 10, 1908, and the latter in 1875.

Chris Fitzer, the father of our subject, was born July 21, 1839, in Mecklenberg-Schwerein, Germany. He landed in the new world on the second of December, 1858, and first located at Davenport, Iowa, where he worked as a teamster. After a three years' residence in that city and another three years spent as a farmer in Scott county, he moved with his family to Cedar county, which was his home up to the time of his death.

Chris Fitzer of this sketch was brought up on a farm in Cedar county and lived until reaching the age of twenty-seven within a mile of the farm of his birth. The primary education received in the district schools was supplemented by a year's study at the normal academy in Wilton Junction, Muscatine county. For seven years prior to 1903 he was engaged in farming a piece of land belonging to his father in Cedar county. On March 2, of the year mentioned, Mr. Fitzer arrived in Rock county and located on the farm which he had bought the year previous, the southwest quarter of section 29, where he resides at the present time. The place was only partly improved when it came into his possession, and he has expended more than \$2000 in its development. Much of this was spent in putting in an effective system of tile drainage.

The marriage of Mr. Fitzer to Adelia L. Arp took place on Christmas day, 1895, at Durant, Iowa. Mrs. Fitzer is the daughter of Peter and Lena (Arp) Arp and was born in Scott county, Iowa, April 19, 1874. Her father died in 1905 but her mother is still living. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Fitzer, namely: Alvin, born November 5, 1896; Bennie, born March 13, 1900; and Edna, born January 13, 1907.

GEORGE W. COTTRELL (1892) is the well known expert horse shoer and machinist of the city of Luverne. He is the eldest son of Michael and Margaret (Cormack) Cottrell, who both came to the United States from Ireland when young in years. They were married at Tipton, Iowa, and that continued to be the home of the esteemed couple until called by death, the father on October 31, 1889, aged sixty-five years, and the mother on April 2, 1907, at the age of seventy-two years. Besides George there were five other children in the Cottrell family: William C., Frank M., Charles A., Julia and Elizabeth V.

George was born at Tipton, Iowa, February 22, 1865, and that was his home for the first twenty-five years of his life. He was educated in the Tipton Union school, the first free public school in Iowa. His father was a machinist, and from his earliest days it was George's delight to watch and assist his father in the work around the shop, and upon leaving school he finished his apprenticeship to the blacksmith trade under the able instruction of his father. At the time of the elder Mr. Cottrell's death in 1889, he conducted the shop by himself for two years. For the two years following, our subject was employed in shoeing track and race horses. He went to Luverne in 1892 and for thirteen years thereafter was an expert horse shoer in the shop of G. H. Henton. He bought out the business of his employer in 1905 and has since conducted it. He has without doubt one of the most complete and best equipped machine shops to be found anywhere in southwestern Minnesota. He makes a specialty of high class work on engines and boilers.

George W. Cottrell is known all over Minnesota through his active participation

in the affairs of the State Firemen's association, of which for a number of years he was a member of the executive board. In 1908 he represented the state at the International Fire Chiefs convention at Columbus, Ohio. While a member of the executive board of the state association he was instrumental in bringing pressure to bear on the state legislature, as a result of which a law was enacted providing for the return to the insurance companies or the reverting to the several firemen's relief associations throughout the state of the two per cent tax levied on foreign fire insurance companies doing business within the state. Mr. Cottrell was for many years the chief of the Luverne department. He is a member of following lodges: Masonic, I. O. O. F., M. W. A., Royal Neighbors, M. B. A. and the K. P., and is the chancellor commander of the local lodge of the last named order. He owns a residence on Cedar street.

At Spirit Lake, Iowa, on the fourth of July, 1892, Mr. Cottrell was joined in wedlock to Irene C. Busier, also a native of Tipton, Iowa, where she was born February 8, 1868. She is the daughter of M. L. and Roxiana Busier. To Mr. and Mrs. Cottrell have been born three children: Edna M., born January 19, 1894; Ellaverne, born February 29, 1896, and Geneva G., born October 9, 1900.

ELI B. JOHNSON (1902) is a prominent Martin township agriculturist who was born December 30, 1879, in Clinton county, Iowa. His parents, Berge and Marie (Jensen) Johnson, were natives of Norway who came to this country in early life. Both father and mother are buried in Clinton county, Iowa, the former having died in 1884 at the age of forty and his wife three years later.

On his father's farm in Clinton county Eli grew to manhood. The education obtained in the district schools was supplemented by a course in the Northern Illinois normal school and business college, at Dixon, Illinois. Our subject was a student at that institution two years, beginning in 1900. In the spring of 1902 Mr. Johnson arrived in Rock county, and in partnership with his

brother, J. B. Johnson, he bought 240 acres on sections 35 and 36, Martin township, which they jointly farmed two years. The two following years he farmed alone, renting a farm on section 35.

Mr. Johnson was married October 12, 1906, at Hills, to Mina Helene Skattum, the daughter of Asle and Martha Skattum, both deceased. The young couple immediately moved on to the farm owned by Mrs. Johnson, the north half of section 33, which has continued to be their home to the present date. Mrs. Johnson was born on that place, which was homesteaded by her father, on February 20, 1884. One of the finest farm residences in Martin township was erected on the place within the last few years, and it is one of the up-to-date farms of the precinct.

Among other interests, Mr. Johnson is a member of the board of directors of the Hills Mercantile company, extensive dealers in grain, feed, etc. He is now serving a term as supervisor of Martin township. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are members of the Synod Norwegian Lutheran church of Hills. They have two children: Martha Marie, born October 3, 1907, and Alice Margaret, born January 25, 1910.

GEORGE DUNBAR (1896) is a representative citizen of the village of Beaver Creek and one of its leading men of business. Born in Wisconsin July 12, 1872, he is the son of Michael and Margretta Dunbar, natives of Ireland who came to the United States at an early day and settled in the Badger state.

George grew to manhood on his father's farm and was educated in the nearby district school. He left Wisconsin for Minnesota in 1896 and located in Beaver Creek. He established himself in the general mercantile business, which has proven a successful venture from the start and in the conduct of which our subject has prospered. Three years ago Mr. Dunbar erected his present substantial brick store edifice, one of the best buildings in the village. He carries a full and complete line of dry goods, groceries, shoes, furnishings, hats, crockery, etc.

Mr. Dunbar is unmarried.

OLE C. DAHL (1881), of Rose Dell township, was born in Ringerike, Norway, on January 4, 1873. In his native land he passed the first eight years of his life, immigrating at that age with his parents, Engbret J. and Anna H. (Horum) Dahl, to America.

The family journeyed direct to Rock county, which has for thirty years been the home of our subject. Engbret J. Dahl rented land in Denver township, and five or six years later he bought a portion of section 5, Mound township, in which precinct Ole finished his schooling and grew to manhood. He has been an independent farmer since 1898, and in the intervening period has farmed several different pieces of land in Rose Dell township. He has been located on his present place, the southeast quarter of section 19, since 1906. Mr. Dahl is unmarried. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and of the Odd Fellows lodge.

JENS O. HELGESON, JR. (1878), in partnership with his brother Richard, farms the whole of section 8, Mound township—land owned by their uncle, Jens O. Helgeson, Sr. On that farm the subject of this review was born July 12, 1878.

The father of Jens and Richard Helgeson was Christopher Helgeson. He was born at Ringerike, near Christiania, Norway, April 29, 1842, and came to the United States in 1871. The first two years of his life in the new world were spent in Allamakee county, Iowa. Then he came as a pioneer and homesteader to Rock county and chose for his allotment the southeast quarter of section 8, Mound township. He started with limited capital and his first home in the new country was a sod shanty. He prospered and was a farmer until the time of his death, which occurred January 1, 1900.

A. E. STAGER (1903) is a wholesale dealer in poultry, butter, eggs and cream and resides at Luverne. He was born at Hastings, Nebraska, October 26, 1879, the son of Joseph and Ada (Marsh) Stager. The former was born in Greenville, Ohio, and moved to Nebraska when a young man,

passing the rest of his life at Hastings and Doniphan, Nebraska, dying in the latter place in 1898 at the age of forty-six years. The mother of our subject was born in Blackearth Wisconsin, and is now living at Doniphan, Nebraska, at the age of fifty years.

A. E. Stager secured an education at Doniphan and until he was eighteen years of age lived with his parents. Then he entered the employ of Armour & Company and was employed by that firm in various capacities until 1903, traveling in western Nebraska, northwestern Kansas and eastern Colorado, buying produce. He located in Luverne in 1903 and for one year was the local manager for a branch house of Armour & Company. Then, in partnership with several Luverne business men, he organized the Luverne Mercantile company, of which he was secretary and treasurer. One year later he sold out his interests in that company, and in 1905 he engaged in the wholesale produce business. At first the business was located in an old building, but in March, 1906, he completed his present business building on Main street. He owns the business property and a fine residence, completed in February, 1910.

Mr. Stager was married in Luverne January 2, 1905, to Minnie J. Heinz, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. Heinz, of Luverne. Mr. and Mrs. Stager have two children, Helen A. and Evelyn.

T. D. ROWLAND (1893), who farms the southeast quarter of section 2, Kanaranzi township, is the son of E. B. and Elvi (Carl) Rowland, residents of Kanaranzi village. His nativity occurred on the sixteenth day of May, 1868, at Elroy, Wisconsin.

Mr. Rowland remained with his parents in the Wisconsin home until attaining the age of sixteen. Then he began to make his own way in the world. Going to South Dakota, he worked as a farm laborer for seven years; then for a period of two years he resided at Creston, Iowa. He came to Rock county in 1893. In the spring of that year he settled on his present location in Kanaranzi township, where he has since been engaged in farming. For four years

he served his precinct as road overseer. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge.

At Blunt, South Dakota, in January, 1889, occurred the marriage of Mr. Rowland to Lizzie McClure. Mrs. Rowland's father died in June, 1902; her mother still lives in Luverne. Seven children have been born to these parents, one of whom, Betha, is dead. The children living are Bessie, Alma, Robert, Arthur, Hazel and Erie.

HOWARD H. PETERS (1909) has been the editor and publisher of the Beaver Creek Banner since April, 1909. He is the oldest child in a family of six children and is the son of W. E. and Louise (Boynton) Peters, both natives of Maine, the former having been born at Dennisville and the latter at Edington. They came as pioneers in the early seventies to Meeker county, Minnesota, and homesteaded land. They are now residents of Forest City, Meeker county.

Howard was born November 15, 1880, at Forest City and was reared on his father's farm in that locality. His education was received in the Litchfield high school, the St. Cloud normal school and the Litchfield Business college. For a year after graduation from the last named institution he was employed as bookkeeper in a bank at Zumbrota, Minnesota. Attracted by the fascination of the printer's trade, he entered the office of the Litchfield Independent to acquaint himself with its mysteries. For two years previous to resurrecting and taking charge of the Banner, he was connected with the Adrian Democrat as a compositor. Mr. Peters is a member of the I. O. O. F. and A. O. U. W. lodges.

The Beaver Creek Banner was established in 1903 by Howe & Misener as a six column folio. Rowland Doane became the second publisher and he gave way to A. E. Caldwell. The paper was making desperate efforts against numerous odds for existence when Mr. Peters entered the field and produced some wonderful changes. The Banner now is a newsy sheet and one that is able to hold its own, with a good subscription list, and is receiving hearty support. The paper has been changed to a five column quarto. New and up-to-date material has been added to the plant.

Howard Peters was married at the home of the bride's parents in Adrian, Minnesota, June 29, 1910, to Miss Nettie L. Rowe. She was born in Nobles county and is the daughter of Henry Rowe, an early settler of that county.

HENRY BORCHERS (1880), one of Martin township's substantial farmers, has spent his entire life in Rock county and on the farm which he now operates.

He is the son of Christ and Catherine (Johnson) Borchers, natives of Germany. They came to America at an early date and were among the first settlers in the country adjoining Parkersburg, Iowa. Leaving that locality in 1871, Mr. Borchers cast his fortunes with other pioneers in Rock county. He homesteaded one of the best pieces of land in Martin township, the northeast quarter of section 11. On that farm Henry Borchers' earthly career began on April 4, 1880. He received an education in the district school and early took up active work on the farm. In 1905 he rented the old homestead and has conducted it to the present time. Our subject is a member of the German Evangelical church and of the Modern Woodmen lodge.

The event of Mr. Borchers' marriage to Nina Ott took place in Luverne on November 12, 1902. Mrs. Borchers is the daughter of George and Mary Ott, the former a native of Germany, and the latter of Illinois. They have four children: Vernon C., born December 29, 1903; Harvey G., born March 15, 1905; Clarence H., born June 29, 1906; Vera C., born October 12, 1909.

In the Borchers family were eight children, five boys and three girls, as follows: Bertha, John, Minnie, Charles, Christina, Lena, Henry and Annie. The second son, Charles, was born June 8, 1873, on his father's Martin township farm. For a great many years he was engaged in the management of the home place with his brother. Of late he has devoted much of his time to the painting business. He is unmarried.

W. E. NEWTON (1898), a Rock county resident since 1898, is a native of Jasper county, Iowa, where he was born January 11, 1874. He is the son of M. and Sarah C.

(Hensley) Newton. The former is now a resident of Nelson, Nebraska; the latter died June 4, 1906.

Our subject lived in the county of his birth for the first six years of his life, then accompanied his parents to Nebraska, in different localities of which the next eighteen years were passed. Mr. Newton resided for different periods of time in Fairmont, Fillmore county, in Garfield county, in Nelson, Nuckolls county, and in Valley county, all in Nebraska. On leaving that state he was for a time located in Fremont county, Iowa, and then, in 1898, commenced his career in Rock county. He was employed at farm labor for a number of years in the vicinity of Luverne, but since the spring of 1910 has been located on his present place. Mr. Newton rents and farms one-half of section 16, Mound township. He is a member of the A. O. U. W. lodge of Luverne.

On November 5, 1899, in Luverne, W. E. Newton was joined in matrimony to Dorothy E. Abbott, who was born March 9, 1877. To this union the following four children have been born: Florence Irene, born August 14, 1900; Harold Emery, born January 28, 1904; Gladys Marian, born September 30, 1906; and Elwin Eugene, born June 9, 1910.

CHARLES J. MARTIN (1898) is the cashier of one of Luverne's prosperous financial institutions, the Rock County Bank. He is one of a family of four children, the son of Andreas and Henrietta (Fraas) Martin, both natives of Germany, who came to the United States in 1852 and located at Defiance, Ohio. For many years Andreas Martin was successfully engaged in the furniture and undertaking business in the Ohio city, at which place his death occurred in 1906, being at that time in his eighty-fourth year. His wife and the mother of our subject still resides at Defiance at the age of seventy-nine.

Charles J. Martin of this review was born at Defiance, Ohio, on the ninth of December, 1870. His early education was received in a German Lutheran parochial school of his native city. At the age of thirteen he entered the office of the "Woechoentlicher Herold," to learn the printer's trade, at which

he became an adept. He remained there for four years; then determining to seek a broader education he became a student at Upper Iowa university at Fayette, Iowa, from which he was graduated in 1893 with the degree of Ph. B., later receiving the degree of Ph. M. The next year he pursued a post graduate course at the university of Chicago and then became superintendent of the Frederiksborg (Iowa) schools. He was elected to the chair of English in Wartburg college, Clinton, Iowa, and was a professor in that institution until 1898, when his residence in Luverne began. He was elected to the cashiership of the Rock County Bank in April, 1899, and since then has had the active control and management of the bank's affairs.

At Lawler, Iowa, on August 22, 1894, Mr. Martin was joined in marriage to Henrietta Parker, a native of the place mentioned, where she was born April 5, 1872. She is the daughter of William H. and Etta (Mason) Parker. Four daughters have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Martin, named: Cora, Attilee, Fannie May, Henrietta Elizabeth and Esther Lenore. Mr. Martin is a member of the Carnegie library board of Luverne and belongs to the Masonic and Knights of Pythias fraternities, in both of which he has passed through the chairs.

The Rock County Bank was the first banking institution established in Luverne. It was incorporated May 2, 1882, with a capital of \$25,000 by the following gentlemen: William Jacobsen, O. P. Miller, J. K. P. Thompson, Hon. William Larabee, B. H. Hinkly, R. B. Hinkly, Frank Larabee, W. R. Kinnard, Ezra Rice, Daniel Stone and W. H. Wilson. The first board of directors consisted of William Larabee, Daniel Stone, William Jacobsen, R. B. Hinkly, J. K. P. Thompson, W. H. Wilson and O. P. Miller, and from these was chosen the initial staff of officers, as follows: President, William Jacobsen; vice president, O. P. Miller; cashier, R. B. Hinkly.

In April, 1899, R. B. Hinkly was elected president and C. J. Martin, cashier. No change was made until August 14, 1909, when the Hinklys and the Larabees sold the bank to Mr. Martin and a group of representative business men and farmers of Rock county. The officers chosen soon after the reorganization and who are serv-

ing at the present time were: President, Dr. C. L. Sherman; vice president, E. Kiebach; cashier, C. J. Martin; assistant cashier, J. F. Kohn. C. L. Sherman, E. Kiebach, C. J. Martin, John P. Houg, L. E. Coss, J. P. Coffey and S. A. D. Kennedy constitute the board of directors. The institution does a general banking and abstract business.

The first home of the Rock County Bank was in a little frame building on lower Main street, now occupied as a residence by Mr. Dement. In 1883 the present commodious banking edifice, located on the corner of Main and Cedar streets, was erected.

NELS ROGNESS (1883) has spent his entire life as a resident of Rock county. He is the son of Andrew J. and Sarrah (Sundem) Rogness, natives of Norway whose residence in America began at an early date. They were among the early settlers of Decorah, Iowa, and came with the vanguard of pioneers to Rock county. The father, who died March 2, 1894, took as his homestead the southeast quarter of section 9, Martin township. Nels of this review is the sixth in a family of seven children, five boys and two girls, as follows: Raudine, who died October 12, 1891; Julius, whose death occurred October 30, 1908; Knute, of Minneapolis; Gulick, of Hills; Henry, Nels and Minnie.

Nels was born on the old homestead August 27, 1883. The education received in the district schools was supplemented by a course in the Minnesota School of Business in Minneapolis and a year spent at the Northwestern Conservatory of Music in the same city. From his early childhood he has been a talented musician and has won more than local distinction in that art. Some of his work in musical composition has been very favorably received. At the present time he devotes a large share of his time to teaching music. He is the director of a local orchestra and the agent for Behr Bros.' pianos.

As an agriculturist he has also been successful. With his brother Henry he is engaged in farming the parental farm. He is the owner of 120 acres of Pipestone county land. Mr. Rogness is a member of the Synod Norwegian Lutheran church.

EMIL C. HECHT (1898) is an enterprising young business man of Hardwick who carries a stock of general merchandise that is noted for its completeness and high standard of quality. He is one of a family of eight living children, the son of Joachim and Annie Heckt. The former lives a retired life at Keystone, Iowa; the mother has been dead for some years.

Emil Heckt was born in Germany April 16, 1876, and came to the United States with his parents when a child four years of age. The family located in Tama county, Iowa, and there on his father's farm our subject grew to manhood. He received a practical education at the Dixon (Illinois) Business college. In 1898 he arrived in Hardwick and for one year was employed as a clerk in the store of J. B. Iverson. The following year, on borrowed capital and in partnership with his brother, R. A. Heckt, Emil commenced his successful business career. He is in every sense of the word a "self-made man," and the prosperity which has fallen to his lot is every bit the result of persistent, individual effort. From the first his business grew, and it was necessary to build an addition to the original store. Mr. Heckt purchased his brother's interest in the business three years after it was established, and since then he has conducted it alone. The building which houses the stock, which is a large, roomy structure, 50x60 feet, with double front, is the property of Mr. Heckt.

Mr. Heckt is at present treasurer of Hardwick village, and for one year he was president of the village council. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

At LeMars, Iowa, on February 9, 1898, Mr. Heckt was married to Anna Willer, who was born in Benton county, Iowa, October 8, 1876. They are the parents of one child, Della, born December 8, 1900. Mrs. Heckt is the daughter of Jurgen and Gertrude Willer, who came to the United States from Germany about 1875. They located in Lucas county, Iowa, and in 1898 moved to Plymouth county, where Mr. Willer is the owner of a large amount of land and now lives a retired life at the age of seventy-eight years. Mrs. Willer died April 16, 1896, at the age of forty-nine. In the Willer family were eight chil-

dren, of whom Henry, John, Charlie, Mrs. Heckt and Nicholas are living. Peter, Julius and Lena are deceased.

ADOLPH G. OESTERN (1892), of Rose Dell township, was born in Allamakee county, Iowa, June 2, 1863, the third in a family of seven children born to Gulick and Carrie (Peterson) Oestern, natives of Norway and early day settlers of Allamakee county. Other children of these parents are Caroline (Mrs. Ole Tweton), of Rose Dell township; Helga (Mrs. T. O. Holm), of Red Wing, Minnesota; Clara (Mrs. J. H. Swenson), of Manitoba, Canada; Otto, of North Dakota; Thorval, of Harpers Ferry, Iowa; and Josie (Mrs. E. Valley), of Minot, North Dakota.

The subject of this biography was educated and spent the first twenty-nine years of his life in the Iowa county of his birth. In 1892 Mr. Oestern commenced his career in Rock county. Since then he has been employed on different farms and also as a groom. For three years following 1903 he was employed in such capacity by M. T. Jacobson, at Waterville, Iowa. He now resides on the farm of his sister, Mrs. Ole Tweton, on the southwest quarter of section 4, Rose Dell township.

GEORGE THORP (1884), a master brick mason and plasterer of Luverne, is a native Norwegian. He was born in the land of the midnight sun the seventeenth of February, 1857, and that continued to be his home for the first twenty-seven years of his life. He became proficient at the trade of sawyer and filer, at which he was employed until enlisting in the Norwegian standing army, at the age of twenty-two. At the time of his discharge after three years' military schooling he held the office of sergeant, which he had held for one year. In 1884 Mr. Thorp immigrated to the United States and at once located in Luverne, which has ever since been his home. He served a three years' apprenticeship in the trade he now follows under N. P. Gillham and then launched into the contracting business on his own account.

Johannes and Anne Marie (Jorgensen) Ludvigsen were the parents of the subject

of this sketch. They came to this country from Norway in 1886 and made their home with Ole Foss until both were called by death. There were eight children in the family, of whom the only living ones are Mr. Thorp and Ole Foss.

George Thorp is a man of family. He was married in February, 1885, to Josephina Olson, also a native of Norway, who died on September 3, 1901. By this union there were the following five children: Mary, of Watertown, South Dakota; Otilde (Mrs. Harry Miller), of Watertown; Jennie S., a student at the Mankato Commercial college; Carl H., of Luverne; and Walter J. A second time, in Luverne, in November, 1903, our subject was joined in the bonds of matrimony to Annie Thompson, who came originally from Norway.

Mr. Thorp is a prominent member of the Synod Norwegian Lutheran church and served as its treasurer for nine years. He is also an ex-member of the Carnegie library board of directors.

ARTHUR G. ZINN (1907) is the postmaster of Kenneth and the proprietor of "Kenneth's Best Store." He was born in Dubuque, Iowa, November 22, 1877, and in that city he received his education and grew to manhood. He early became interested in the dry goods business and for a number of years was employed as clerk in the big department store of James Levi & Co. He remained with that firm until 1905, when he went to Sioux Falls to assume a position with the New York Mercantile Co. Two years later he moved to Kenneth and established his present business, which has grown steadily from the start. The original stock was purchased from J. D. Cope. He conducts a first-class general merchandise store, dealing in dry goods, groceries, shoes, furnishings, etc. It was in March, 1907, during Mr. Zinn's first year of residence in Kenneth, that he was appointed postmaster, which office he still holds.

Arthur is the youngest of a family of five children, four of whom are living: Louis, of Dubuque, Iowa; William, of Dubuque; Kate (Mrs. John Breithaupt), of Dubuque; and the subject of this sketch. He is the son of William Zinn, who died in 1892, and of

Martha Zinn, who still resides in Dubuque. William Zinn, the father, was a traveling representative of the firm of E. B. Piekenbrock & Sons, of Dubuque, his territory embracing the states of Iowa and South Dakota. Mr. Zinn was a native of Germany and came to this country at the age of seventeen years. For three year previous to taking up his residence in Dubuque, he was located at East Troy, Wisconsin. He was fifty-five years old at the time of his decease. He was a veteran of the civil war, serving during the struggle with the Fifty-second Wisconsin infantry. His wife, Martha (Bechtel) Zinn, was also a native of Germany, coming to America when a girl of nine years.

Arthur Zinn was married in Luverne on January 10, 1906, to Lulu Engebretson, a native of Rock county. She was born October 26, 1883, and is a daughter of Fred Engebretson. Mr. Zinn belongs to the Independent Order of Foresters in Dubuque

MATTH. KOLL (1894) has been a Rock county farmer for the past seventeen years, and his operations have been confined to two townships, Battle Plain and Denver. His nativity occurred in the hamlet of Fehmern, province of Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, on May 15, 1863. His father, Peter Koll, was a farmer and also conducted a flouring mill. The mother of our subject was Wilhelmina (Hofeldt) Koll.

Mr. Koll received a common school education in the country of his birth. At the age of fourteen years he crossed the Atlantic to seek a field for endeavor in the land of possibilities. He made Walcott, Iowa, his destination, and near that place was employed at farm labor for eight years. He then homesteaded land in Decatur county, Kansas, and lived there nine years. The country was altogether too dry and not suited to Mr. Koll's tastes, so in 1894 he left Kansas and made settlement in the garden spot of southwestern Minnesota. He farmed in Battle Plain township three years, following which he farmed on section 20, Denver, for a like period. He has farmed the south half of section 1 since 1901. Mr. Koll raises considerable stock. He was for fifteen years a school

director. He holds membership in the A. O. U. W. and D. of H. lodges.

Our subject was married in Kansas on New Year's day, 1889, to Nettie Baker. She was born in Ohio April 6, 1870, the daughter of Joseph and Abbie (Gudgeon) Baker, also natives of the Buckeye state. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Koll: Wilhelmina, born August 3, 1890; Gertrude, born July 24, 1892; Laura, born February 8, 1895; George, born March 6, 1897; Ella, born May 20, 1901; Carl, born April 17, 1905; and Richard, born July 28, 1909.

S. W. ROSE (1888) has been a resident of Luverne since 1888, the year in which he attained his majority. In company with D. A. Hulett and S. B. Hulett he is interested in the West Side Auto company, a thriving concern which was organized in September, 1910, and which recently moved into its new and substantial cement block home on Main street. The firm is actively engaged in the sale and repair of automobiles and in the conduct of an up-to-the-minute auto livery. They are local agents for the well known E. M. F. and Flanders "20" cars.

The parents of our subject were Martin and Barbara Rose, both natives of Germany who came to this country before their marriage. It was in the early forties, before the railroads began to traverse the state to any extent, that Martin Rose settled in Henry county, Illinois. At that early day the hardy pioneers were at great disadvantages in the placing of the products of the farm. Hogs and produce were hauled by ox team a distance of nearly 200 miles to market at Chicago, then an unpretentious community. Mr. Rose lived continuously nearly sixty years on the land he filed claim to as a young man. He died in 1900 at the age of eighty-five years. His wife survived him six years and was seventy-eight years old at the time of her decease.

It was on the old farm in Henry county, Illinois, on October 21, 1867, that S. W. Rose of this review was born. He grew to manhood on the home place, and it was from there that he moved direct to Luverne in the year already mentioned. For a number of years our subject was engaged as

local agent for several leading machinery and supply houses. At present he represents the interests of the Avery Manufacturing Co., manufacturers of threshing machinery, in Rock county. Mr. Rose has achieved success in his chosen calling, entirely by his own unaided efforts, and has won for himself a respected position in the city which has long been the scene of his activities. Fraternally he is a Modern Woodman.

In Luverne, on December 23, 1896, S. W. Rose was united in marriage to Rachael Cripps. Mrs. Rose is a native of Michigan.

JAMES W. BONNETT (1886) has, with the exception of a few months, passed his entire life within the borders of Rock county. He was born in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, July 4, 1886. In the fall of the same year he accompanied his parents, Thomas H. and Ellen (Williams) Bonnett, both natives of Wisconsin, to their new home in Rock county. The father bought the northwest quarter of section 26, Magnolia township, upon which James grew to manhood. He attended the district schools, then assisted with the work on the home farm until he commenced farming for himself in the fall of 1909. At that time he rented the southwest quarter of section 32, Battle Plain township, upon which he has since resided. He raises Poland China hogs and Shorthorn cattle.

Mr. Bonnett was married at Luverne on September 14, 1909, to Irene N. Beaty, who was born in the county July 15, 1888. She is the daughter of James and Ella (Sorens) Beaty, of Luverne. The former parent is a native of Illinois and the mother is of Wisconsin birth. One daughter, Mavis B., was born to Mr. and Mrs. Bonnett, on May 25, 1910. Our subject is a member of the Catholic church and of the Odd Fellows lodge.

JACOB E. BOGENREIF (1896), a farmer and breeder of Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs in Springwater township, has been a resident of both Pipestone and Rock counties. He is the son of Benjamin and Martha (Fry) Bogenreif, natives of

Pennsylvania, who went to Illinois early in life and were married there.

It was in Stephenson county, Illinois, on May 8, 1872, that Jacob F. Bogenreif was born. At the age of twelve he moved with his parents to Plymouth county, Iowa, where he received a schooling and assisted with the work on his father's farm. In the first year of his manhood he rented land and commenced farming for himself. Three years later, in the spring of 1896, he moved to Pipestone county, farmed there eleven years, and since then his home has been in Rock county. He is the owner of eighty acres of land, which, together with a quarter section he rents, makes a total farming area of 240 acres. While a resident of Pipestone county, Mr. Bogenreif served a term of four years on the board of county commissioners, was the chairman of the township board for a decade, and was a road overseer for three years.

At Merrill, Iowa, on January 10, 1892, Mr. Bogenreif was married to Mary C. Bonn, who was born February 5, 1874, the daughter of Stephen and Elizabeth (Casper) Bonn, natives of Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Bogenreif are the parents of the following named children: Lillie M., born April 16, 1893; Mary C., born September 28, 1894; Myrtle M., born July 22, 1896; Barbara M., born February 13, 1898; Laura C., born February 18, 1900; Clarence E., born April 11, 1902; Veronica H., born April 3, 1904; Ida M., born January 21, 1906; Lawrence J., born in 1908; Lenord S., born September 7, 1910. Our subject is a member of the Catholic church and of the M. W. A. lodge.

ANTON KOCH (1891) is a progressive farmer of Mound township who is firmly convinced that there is no place like Rock county. He has traveled widely over Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa and the Dakotas in a vain search for a locality that might be more appropriately termed "the garden spot of the northwest."

The subject of this biography is a native of the fatherland, and his birth occurred November 21, 1873, at Reichland, in the province of Alsace Lorraine. Both his father and mother, Nick and Annie

(Dick) Koch, are still living and reside at Alton, Iowa. Anton was reared on a farm and lived in the land of his birth until after his eighteenth birthday. For four years previous to his coming to the United States in 1891, he was employed in a glass factory. His entire residence in the land of his adoption with the exception of three years has been passed in Rock county. For fourteen years he managed his father's Vienna township farm, then for three years he was engaged in farming in Willmont township, Nobles county. Since 1907, he has rented and farmed his present land, which comprises 400 acres of section 13, Mound township. Mr. Koch is an enthusiastic stock raiser and is making good in that line. Lately he commenced the breeding of thoroughbred Hereford cattle and owns other stock of good strain.

Mr. Koch is a man of family. He was married at St. Kilian, Nobles county, on September 22, 1898, to Annie Hassler, who was born in Davenport, Iowa, May 16, 1882. To these parents the following six children have been born: Annie, born January 31, 1900; Peter, born December 30, 1902; Elizabeth, born December 25, 1904; Hilda, born February 3, 1907; Agnes, born April 17, 1908; and John Nick, born November 23, 1909. The family are members of the Catholic church of Luverne.

JAMES H. BARCLAY (1874), of Luverne, is the son of two early pioneers of Luverne township, G. S. and Sophia E. Barclay, natives of Pennsylvania and Germany, respectively. G. S. Barclay hauled freight overland to Luverne for two years before the advent of a railroad to Rock county. He died February 21, 1909, a few months before the decease of his wife, which occurred on December 17, 1910.

Freeport, Illinois, is the native city of James H. Barclay of this review, his birth having occurred August 24, 1863. While yet an infant he moved with his parents to Blackhawk county, Iowa, and from there to Rock county in 1874. The Barclays resided in Luverne township for several years and then settled on land they had bought in Westside township, Nobles county. James assisted with the management of the home farm until his marriage in 1891 and then en-

gaged in farming on his own account until 1902, the year he located in the city of Luverne to engage in his present occupation, that of carpenter and builder. Our subject is a member of the Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen orders.

Mr. Barclay was married on January 28, 1891, to Serelda M. Kienast, the daughter of William G. and Mary Kienast, now residents of Aberdeen, South Dakota. Mrs. Barclay, who was a native of Neenah, Wisconsin, died in Luverne June 13, 1910, aged forty years. Two children were born to this union: a daughter, Florence M., and a son, Harold J., who died in infancy.

JOHN KAHLER (1892), for nineteen years a resident and farmer of Rose Dell township, first saw the light of day in Holstein, Germany, on December 12, 1866. His father, Paul Kahler, died in Germany in 1890, but his mother, Cathrina (Dittmer) Kahler, still lives in the old country.

Up to his fourteenth year the life of John Kahler was not unlike that of the average German school boy. He journeyed alone to America at the age mentioned, going direct to Blairstown, Iowa, where he was employed at farm labor until 1892, the date of his settlement in Rock county. He has had but one home in the county, his present location, the northwest quarter of section 11, range 47, Rose Dell township. The place upon which he has lived for the past nineteen years is the property of his father-in-law, but he is the owner of the southeast quarter of section 2, range 47, land he purchased in 1900. He is a shareholder in the Farmers Elevator company of Jasper. Mr. Kahler is one of the township supervisors, a director of school district No. 47, and a member of the German Lutheran church.

At Newhall, Benton county, Iowa, on February 24, 1892, John Kahler was married to Emma Seeman, whose birth occurred March 10, 1872. She is the daughter of John and Minna (Peters) Seeman, natives of Germany. As a result of this union the following three children have been born: Martha, born December 13, 1895; August, born November 16, 1897; and John, born May 27, 1902.

EMIL F. KOHLSCHÉEN (1890), now of Buchanan, North Dakota, made Rock county his home from the time he was sixteen years of age. His parents, Henry and Emma (Falk) Kolscheen, are both buried in Germany, the native land of our subject. His father was a butcher in the town of Petersdorf, Holstein, where Emil's birth occurred August 31, 1874. He was educated in that town and at the age of sixteen undertook the long journey to America alone. The first summer after his arrival he worked in Charter Oak, Iowa, and in the fall of the same year, 1890, he found his way to Rock county. He hired out at farm labor for five years and then commenced farming on his own account. He lived on the northwest quarter of section 20, Springwater township, from the spring of 1889 until his recent removal to North Dakota. Mr. Kohlscheen served on the board of his school district for eight years, was clerk of the township board for four years and its chairman for three. He holds membership in the A. O. U. W. and M. W. A. lodges.

In Luverne, on October 21, 1895, Mr. Kohlscheen was married to Dorothy Hemme, who was born March 18, 1873, the daughter of Carl and Dora Hemme. Four children have been born to this union: Willie, born April 28, 1896; Walter, born November 26, 1897; Harry, born June 23, 1901; and Raymond, born May 18, 1904.

ANDREW A. ANDERSON (1886), the assistant cashier of the First National Bank of Hills, is one of three sons in a family of nine children who were born to one of Rock county's and Martin township's most honored pioneers, Goodman Anderson. Mr. Anderson, who settled in Martin township in 1871, was a prominent figure in the many activities that had to do with the early development of the county. He was one of the earliest of the county commissioners and also served for six years as county treasurer, to which office he was succeeded by P. O. Skyberg. Goodman Anderson is now a resident of Hills.

The subject of this biography was born October 8, 1886, on the old homestead in Martin township, located on the northeast quarter of section 27. On that farm he

grew to manhood. After completing the course offered by the district schools of the county Andrew attended Luther college, at Decorah, Iowa, from which he was graduated. On completing his school career he returned to manage the home farm, which he successfully did for four years, or until the fall of 1909, when he entered the employ of the First National Bank. He was elected to the position of assistant cashier in January, 1910.

At Minneapolis, on June 25, 1910, Andrew A. Anderson was united in marriage to Marie Klugness, a native of the mill city. Mrs. Anderson was born March 6, 1889.

CHRIST WEBBER (1882) owns and farms the southeast quarter of section 6, Clinton township, and is one of the successful farmers of the precinct. He was born in Wurttemberg, Germany, January 18, 1844, the son of Michael and Eva (Waibel) Webber. Both his parents died in Germany, his father in 1885 and his mother in 1883.

Mr. Webber lived in the land of the kaiser for thirty-eight years, or until 1882. He was brought up on a farm, engaged in various forms of agricultural labor, and for eleven years was employed in a mill. It was on May 2, 1882, that our subject first set foot upon American soil, and in August of the same year his residence in Rock county began. For a short time he hired out to a farmer and in 1883 he bought his present farm, and has operated it without interruption to the present date. The land was raw and undeveloped when Mr. Webber first located on it, but the substantial improvements found there today are visible evidences of the owner's successful career.

On August 16, 1883, in Luverne, Mr. Webber was united in marriage to Eve Deinen-ger, also a native of Germany. There are three children in the Webber family, John, Christina and William. They are members of the German Lutheran church of Steen.

PAUL RIEDEL (1898) established the first meat market in the village of Magnolia. At present he is engaged in farming and lives on the southeast quarter of section 12, Magnolia township. Germany is his na-

tive land, and it was in Zechin on the tenth of February, 1867, that he was born. He is the son of William and Emelia (Zimmerman) Riedel. The father was a prominent merchant and trader in his home town.

The first eighteen years of Paul Riedel's life were spent as a subject of the kaiser, and in the fatherland he secured his education. In 1885 he crossed the Atlantic and made his first home in the new world at Mapleton, Minnesota, with an uncle. For a number of years he hired out on different farms in that vicinity, and in 1890 he entered the employ of a butcher, from whom he learned the trade. In 1892 he removed to St. Clair, Blue Earth county, where for two years he managed a shop for Charles Dumbeck. Abandoning the meat business for a while, he worked as a carpenter until 1898, the date of his arrival to Rock county. He made Magnolia his home, and there he conducted a meat market for the next four years. At the end of that time he disposed of his business and moved to the farm where he still resides.

At St. Clair, Minnesota, Mr. Riedel was united in marriage to Eda Kohler. Two sons and one daughter have blessed this union. The children were born as follows: Willie, on December 17, 1895 (died the following September); Flossie M., on September 27, 1897; and Otto W., on Independence day, 1898 (died at the age of eight years). Mr. Riedel is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge.

EDWARD W. LYNCH (1890), proprietor of a Luverne harness shop, is a native Minnesotan, having been born in Houston county August 20, 1865. His parents, Michael and Mary (Murphy) Lynch, natives of Ireland, came to America in childhood. After their marriage they located in Boston, lived there a while, in New Hampshire a while, and then located in Houston county, Minnesota. After living there fourteen years, they moved still farther west, taking a homestead in Brookings county, South Dakota, where they both died. Our subject is the youngest of three living children, the others being John J. and Katie.

Edward attended the country schools of Houston county and at the age of fourteen years moved with his parents to Brookings

county, South Dakota. There he spent eight years working on the farm; then he began learning the harness maker's trade in a shop at Aurora, South Dakota. He worked at the trade until 1890 and then located in Luverne, where he has ever since resided. For ten years he worked in the harness shop of J. A. Kennicott; then he bought that gentleman's business, moved the stock to his present place of business, and has since been in business for himself. He carries a complete line of harness goods and has a nice store.

Mr. Lynch was married at Sioux Falls June 10, 1896, to Laura Trede. She is the daughter of the late John Trede and was born at Davenport, Iowa, April 13, 1873. Mr. and Mrs. Lynch have two children: Marie C., born August 31, 1898; Edwin Leo, born July 16, 1903. The family are members of the Catholic church of Luverne. Mr. Lynch is a member of the A. O. U. W. lodge of Luverne and has held the office of financial secretary for the past six years. He is also a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters of Ellsworth and of the Knights of Columbus of Sioux Falls.

ARTHUR TESKEY (1886), who owns and farms the southwest quarter of section 16, Springwater township, is a native of Clinton county, Iowa, to which place his parents came from the east in the late fifties. His father, John P. Teskey, a native of Ireland, passed away in Springwater township on June 29, 1910. The mother of our subject, Pauline (Maxwell) Teskey, was born in New York.

The birth of Arthur Teskey occurred February 9, 1861. He was reared on his father's Clinton county farm and received a district school education. He was twenty-five years of age when he came to Rock county and located on land he had bought, the southwest quarter of section 16, his home ever since. He has made improvements on the place until today it is one of the model farms of the precinct. Mr. Teskey raises considerable stock and has been very successful in the venture. For seventeen years he was a school director, for ten years the treasurer of the township, and for seven years the precinct's faithful assessor. By

church affiliation he is a Methodist; fraternally he is a Modern Woodman.

In Sac City, Iowa, on March 23, 1886, our subject married Cora D. Greenwalt, who was born September 26, 1862, the daughter of Benjamin and Mary (Sherbundy) Greenwalt. Mr. and Mrs. Teskey are the parents of the following three children: Delila R., born December 30, 1893; George A., born November 7, 1898; and Alva P., born December 15, 1902.

JOHN OYE (1904) is a well known farmer and landed proprietor of Mound township. He is the owner of the northwest quarter of section 6, Mound township, and the northeast quarter of section 1, Springwater township, 320 acres of choice land, improved with substantial buildings.

John was born in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, on March 13, 1864. Two years after his birth he crossed the Atlantic in the company of his parents, Hans and Fredericka (Koch) Oye, who settled in Scott county, Iowa, near Davenport. Our subject received an elementary education and at the age of fourteen commenced the individual struggle for existence. He was an Iowa farmer until 1893, when he became identified with prosperity in Minnesota. He bought and farmed land in Nobles county, living there until 1904, since which time Rock county and the land described above has been his home.

Mr. Oye was married in Crawford county, Iowa, February 6, 1886, to Maria Frahm, who was born the first of May, 1864, the daughter of John and Caroline (Moller) Frahm. To this union have been born the following eight children: Marvin, born September 5, 1887, died March 30, 1889; Carl, born August 4, 1889; Theodore, born June 18, 1891; Caroline, born April 21, 1893; Maria, born January 24, 1895; Barbara, born August 28, 1898; Ernest, born September 19, 1901; Doris, born October 3, 1903.

Our subject was for four years a director of his school district, and for three years he was a supervisor of Mound township. He owns stock in the Farmers Elevator company, a flourishing co-operative concern of Hardwick. Mr. Oye is prominent in fraternal circles and holds membership in five lodges, viz: I. O. O. F., M. W. A., A. O.

U. W., D. of H. and Rebekahs. With his family he belongs to the German Lutheran church.

ELI M. BACKER (1895) is the proprietor of a hardware store and repair shop in Luverne and has lived in the county sixteen years. He was born at Manchester, Iowa, March 8, 1870, and when three years of age accompanied his parents to Storm Lake, Iowa. He was educated in that town and made his home there until 1886. During the next three years he lived with his parents on a farm ten miles from Storm Lake; then he moved back to town and for sixteen months read law in the office of C. A. Irwin. For several years thereafter he resided in LeMars, Iowa, engaged in raising trained horses, and then engaged in teaching school in Buena Vista county, Iowa.

In 1895 Mr. Backer located in Rock county and during the first season worked on a farm south of Luverne. In 1898 he bought a half interest in a store and repair shop in Luverne and later bought out his partner's interest. He added to his stock and after moving into his present building put in a stock of hardware, guns, paints, etc., continuing the general repair work. Mr. Backer served as village recorder one year. He is a member of the M. W. A. lodge.

The parents of our subject are William and Sarah (Cronk) Backer, both natives of the state of New York. Mrs. Backer is a descendant of an old New York state family that originally came from Holland. Her uncle, Hiram Cronk, the last surviving pensioner of the war of 1812, died in 1906 at the age of 105 years. He had enlisted in the service at the age of twelve years. Mr. and Mrs. Backer located in Storm Lake, Iowa, in 1873 and since that time have lived in the following places: LeMars, Iowa; Coleman, South Dakota; Wentworth, South Dakota; Mentor, South Dakota, now residing in the last named place. There are three children in the family, Eli M., Earl D. and Lewis E.

Eli M. Backer was married at LeMars, Iowa, January 25, 1894, to Sadie M. Johnson. She is the daughter of August and Johanna C. Johnson and was born in Clinton, Iowa, September 4, 1874. Mr. and Mrs. Backer

have two children: Walter L., born February 19, 1895; W. Duane, born December 20, 1897.

OLAF KOLSRUD (1880) is Rock county born and bred. His father and mother, Lars and Mary (Nelson) Kolsrud, natives of Norway, are still living on the old farm one mile north of Hills which they homesteaded in the pioneer days of the seventies.

It was on this Martin township farm that Olaf was born March 14, 1880, and there it was he resided and served as a valued assistant to his father in the conduct of the place until after passing his twenty-third birthday. His education was secured in the school of district No. 49, the same district he was destined in later years to become one of the directors of. In that capacity he served for three years. In 1903 he commenced farming for himself on land in section 23, Martin township, which he rents from his father. He makes a special point of fancy stock raising, especially horses. Among other interests he is a director of the Farmers State Bank of Hills and since 1905 has held the office of treasurer of Martin township.

In his home town, on October 30, 1902, Mr. Kolsrud was united in marriage to Mary Dahl, the daughter of Charles Dahl, a resident of Rock Rapids, Iowa. Her mother has been dead for some time. Mrs. Kolsrud is a native of Norway, born November 12, 1882, and came to this country and to Rock county ten years later. They are the parents of three children, namely: Lars M., born April 26, 1905; Laura E., born December 9, 1906; and Olga K., born March 6, 1909. Mr. and Mrs. Kolsrud are members of the Trinity Lutheran church of Hills.

WILLIAM McKISSON (1878), of Beaver Creek, is a native Minnesotan and has been a resident of Rock county since 1878. He was born in Fillmore county February 13, 1863, the son of John R. and Polly (McDermott) McKisson, the former a native of Scotland and the latter of Pennsylvania. Both parents are deceased, John R. McKisson having passed away in 1885 and the

death of our subject's mother having occurred April 18, 1908. To this union were born the following children, two sons and two daughters: William H., the subject of this biography; John E., Nina (Mrs. J. W. Foster), who died at Albert Lea, Minnesota, April 6, 1909; and Jennie (Mrs. C. H. Morse), of Madison, South Dakota.

William commenced his education in the district schools of Fillmore county and continued it in Rock county, to which he moved with his parents when a youth of fourteen. His father located on a farm on section 24, Beaver Creek township, upon which he resided until his death. Following this event William, in partnership with his brother John, continued the operation of the home place until 1902, when he became a resident of Beaver Creek. Mr. McKisson was variously employed until April, 1909, when he purchased the Myllenback saloon, of which he has since been the proprietor. He is unmarried.

GULLIK G. SUNDEM, JR., (1879) has, with the exception of two years, spent his entire life on the farm which was his birthplace. June 8, 1879, is the date of his nativity. He is the son of Gullik and Mary Sundem, who came to Rock county in 1878, settling on the southwest quarter of section 7, Martin township, which has since continued to be their home and that of our subject.

The younger Gullik, of this sketch, passed the life of the average country youth, assisting his father with the farm work and attending the district school. The first year of his absence from home was during the time he was a student at Valder Business college in Decorah, Iowa. Then for a year, commencing in 1891, he was associated with G. H. Sundem under the firm name of G. H. Sundem & Co., in the general mercantile business at Hills. He sold his share to J. Braveck and returned to the farm. For a year he worked out, then took up the management of the home place for his father. In 1907 he rented the farm from his father and has conducted it for himself since.

Mr. Sundem's marriage to Enga Nelson took place in Martin township on June 22, 1906. Mrs. Sundem is a daughter of Ole

and Ragneld Nelson, residents of Martin township. To this union one child, Roy M. C., was born on February 17, 1909. Mr. and Mrs. Sundem are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Hills.

ANDREW HOIME (1889), of Springwater township, was born in Valders, Norway, January 27, 1875, the son of Stephen and Mary (Ellstad) Hoime. The father, who was a small farmer, died when Andrew was six years of age. In 1889, at the age of fourteen, he came with his mother and sister to the United States and direct to Rock county, to the home of his brother, Peder Hoime, in Martin township, who had preceded the family to America several years. For a time our subject hired out to different farmers and in 1899 commenced farming on his own account. Since 1903 he has rented and operated the east half of section 5, Springwater township. He is a director of school district No. 45.

Andrew Hoime was united in marriage May 15, 1898, to Cora Loeffler, who was born August 15, 1878. To these parents the following six children have been born: Archie, born July 30, 1899; Neva, born June 2, 1901; Florence, born, April 19, 1903; Irene, born January 17, 1905; Iola, born February 13, 1909; and Lavera, born January 5, 1907.

NELS A. CHRISTIANSON (1902), the only graduate veterinary surgeon residing in Rock county, has successfully practised his profession in Luverne since 1902. He maintains a well equipped veterinary hospital.

Dr. Christianson is a native Minnesotan. He was born in the village of Rushford, Fillmore county, February 28, 1868, and from that place moved during infancy with his parents to Lanesboro. The Christianson family went to Worthington, Nobles county, in 1873, shortly after the founding of that town, and in the fall Aage C. Christianson, the father of our subject, homesteaded land in Ewington township, Jackson county. After making final proof on the land the Christiansons located on a farm just over the line in Nobles county. From 1881 to 1887 they were residents of Worthington. Nels lived at home until twenty-two years

of age. Then, in 1890, he rented the Nobles county farm of his father and conducted it for a number of years. Since his graduation from the Ontario (Canada) Veterinary college in 1902, Dr. Christianson has practised his profession in Rock county. He is a member of the Minnesota Veterinary association.

The parents of our subject, Aage C. and Cecelia (Weston) Christianson, were married in Norway and emigrated from their native land to the United States in 1867. They at once settled in Minnesota, first at Rushford, Fillmore county, and then at Lanesboro, the same county. A. C. Christianson erected the first white settler's dwelling in the latter village. He homesteaded land in Ewington township, Jackson county, in 1873; then for about fifteen years was a well known Nobles county farmer. In 1888 Mr. Christianson bought the old Gilbert mill farm in Des Moines township, Jackson county. Since the death of Cecelia (Weston) Christianson, July, 1889, he has resided with his children. Of the children born to this union seven are living. C. C. Christianson, the oldest son, died in 1903. The seven children are Peter, of Hinckley, Minnesota; Christina (Mrs. E. C. Waller), of Stacy; Nels A., of this review; John W., a Presbyterian minister of Sisseton, South Dakota; Sivert, of Aberdeen, South Dakota; Emil, of Hills, and Anna J., a graduate of St. Barnabas hospital, and now the assistant superintendent of Northwestern hospital, Minneapolis.

Dr. Christianson was married at Magnolia August 15, 1900, to Grace Wiseman, who was born May 30, 1881, in Westside township, Nobles county, the daughter of John Wiseman, one of the pioneer settlers of that precinct. To Mr. and Mrs. Christianson have been born the following named children: Daisy J., born July 13, 1901; Charles, born September 1, 1903, and died October 6, 1907; Ethel C., born May 10, 1905; Arthur J., born June 17, 1908.

FERDINAND KINDT (1892), a farmer of Denver township, was born in the province of Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, on July 1, 1869. His parents were John Kindt, a farmer, who died in Germany in 1893, and Wiebke (Schmidt) Kindt, who died a year previous

to her husband. Ferdinand was brought up on a farm and educated in Germany, following agricultural pursuits there until coming to America at the age of twenty-three years.

On landing in this country in 1892, Ferdinand Kindt journeyed direct to Rock county. He worked out as a farm laborer in Mound township for a year and was similarly employed in Springwater township for four years. After marrying he commenced farming for himself on section 1, Springwater township, and resided there seven years. Having bought land in Kandiyohi county, Minnesota, he moved thereon and remained four years, until moving to Moody county, South Dakota, where he farmed rented land prior to establishing his second and present residence in Rock county. He is engaged in farming 338 acres on section 1, Denver township, and raises lots of stock.

Our subject was married in Springwater township on the first of December, 1896, to Maggie Albers, who was born in Germany July 8, 1871, and came to the United States at the age of eleven years. Mr. and Mrs. Kindt are the parents of the following six children: John Nicholas, born August 29, 1897; Henry Alfred, born April 13, 1899; Wilhelm Ferdinand, born January 17, 1902; Annie Maggie, born July 22, 1904; Clara Wilhelmina Helene, born January 28, 1907; and Peter Max, born May 26, 1908.

GORDON J. MCKENZIE (1907), for the past four years a substantial Rose Dell township farmer, is a Canadian by birth. He was born May 16, 1873, the son of John and Lucy (Bothwell) McKenzie. The father, a carpenter by occupation, was a native of Scotland, while his mother, who was of Irish descent, was born and reared in Canada.

Ten years after the birth of our subject the family moved to the United States and to Sherman, South Dakota. There Gordon completed his education, and after the death of his father in 1884, he with an older brother assumed the management of the home farm. Mrs. McKenzie sold the farm in 1899 and established a residence in the town of Sherman. Her son followed the trade of carpenter there until 1907,

when he settled in Rock county. At that time he bought the southeast quarter of section 25, range 47, which he has thoroughly improved and where he now makes his home. Mr. McKenzie is a member of the township board and a director of school district No. 70.

At Sherman, on September 25, 1901, Gordon J. McKenzie was united in marriage to Ida Hanson, the daughter of Ole A. and Matilda (Christensen) Hanson, of Norwegian extraction. Mrs. McKenzie was born December 26, 1877, on the old homestead of her parents near the place which is now Sherman, South Dakota. Five years prior to her marriage she taught school in South Dakota and Minnesota. These four children have been born to this union: Gordon Clair, born May 27, 1903; Marvelle Lucile, born March 5, 1908; Jessie Olivette, born May 14, 1909; Donald Malcolm, born August 22, 1910, died September 6, 1910.

THOMAS O. BAKER (1888), who makes his home on and farms the northwest quarter of section 15, Kanaranzi township, is a Hoosier by birth, the date of his nativity being July 28, 1883. With his father and mother, John and Anna Baker, the five year old Thomas became a resident of Rock county in 1888. His parents are now farming in Lyon county, Iowa.

The family first made their home on the northeast quarter of section 29, Kanaranzi township, where they remained for a period of two years. Then a removal to the village of Ashcreek was made, and there Thomas attended the public schools. In 1906 he commenced farming for himself by renting the northeast quarter of section 20, Kanaranzi township. This he worked for three years, until moving to his present location on the northwest quarter of section 15.

At Luverne, on September 26, 1906, Mr. Baker took as his wife Nellie M. Lien, a native of Manchester, Iowa. They are the parents of two children, Milton O., born April 3, 1908, and Charmion E., born February 6, 1910.

FRITZ HERRMANN (1903) is one of the substantial farmers and extensive stock breeders of Springwater township. In that

precinct he owns and farms a half section of productive soil, the northwest quarter of section 25 and the northeast quarter of section 26.

Fritz is a native German and first saw the light of day in Femarn, Schleswig-Holstein, on the first day of September, 1868. His father, Hans Herrmann, was a day laborer. His mother was Louisa (Bockwoldt) Herrmann. The first sixteen years of the life of our subject were for the most part spent as a student in the German lower schools. With his brother Nick he then undertook the journey across the Atlantic to make settlement in the land of opportunity. He went direct to Cedar county, Iowa, and for eleven years was engaged in the threshing business during the fall seasons and in general agricultural labor the rest of the time. In 1894 he established himself as an independent farmer, moving eight years later from Iowa to his present location in Rock county. Mr. Herrmann is the treasurer of school district No. 46.

At Durant, Iowa, on the sixth of July, 1893, Fritz Herrmann was united in marriage to Minnie Bockwoldt, who was born December 20, 1869, the daughter of Peter and Christina (Schnare) Bockwoldt. These parents have three children: Amanda L., born September 30, 1894; Welbert H. P., born September 28, 1898; and Edward W., born November 1, 1901.

A. D. LADUE (1885), president of the First National Bank of Luverne and interested in many other business enterprises in the county capital, has spent all except the first twenty years of his life in Rock county, and is one of Luverne's most prominent citizens. A comparative young man, he has advanced from a clerkship to the head of one of the foremost financial institutions of southwestern Minnesota. Under his guidance the bank, which reached its present eminence under the efficient management of earlier officers, has not only maintained its standing but has advanced. Besides his banking interests Mr. LaDue is president of the Luverne Automobile company, one of the most important manufacturing industries of the city; is treasurer of the Luverne Pressed Brick company, treasurer of the Maplewood Cemetery company, treasurer of the Manitou Hotel company

and treasurer of the Luverne independent school district.

Our subject is a native Minnesotan, having been born in Rochester October 17, 1865. His father is Jay LaDue, one of Luverne's most highly respected citizens and a resident of that city for more than a quarter of a century. His mother is Janette (Buel) LaDue, a native of Chautauqua county, New York. He is one of a family of five children, the others being C. M., John J., L. B. and Mabel.

A. D. LaDue received his education in his native city. His first practical employment was a position of bookkeeper in the Union National Bank of Rochester, which he held from 1883 until he arrived in Luverne on June 1, 1885. Upon his arrival to Luverne he accepted a position as bookkeeper in the Rock County Bank and was later made assistant cashier, remaining with that institution until the fall of 1891. Then, in partnership with the late William Jacobsen, he bought an interest in the First National Bank and became the cashier. In 1905 he became president of the institution and has since been at the head of the bank. Mr. LaDue is a member of the Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen of America lodges.

Mr. LaDue was married in Luverne in 1890 to Laura Huntington, daughter of George C. Huntington. To them have been born the following named five children: Jay H., George M., Russell N., Charles M. and Laura B.

JOSEPH W. HAWKINSON (1906), osteopath physician of Luverne, is a native of Chisago county, Minnesota, and was born October 29, 1872. He is one of a family of ten sons, all except one living. His parents, Gustaf and Caroline Hawkinson, were born and married in Sweden, came to the United States about 1860 and settled in Chisago county, Minnesota, where both died on the old homestead.

Our subject lived on the farm and attended the rural schools until about eighteen years of age. Then he was a student two years in a Minneapolis college and later two years in the Red Wing normal college, of which he is a graduate. He decided to take up the study of osteopathy and in 1902



RESIDENCE OF A. D. LaDUE, LUVERNE



RESIDENCE OF DR. J. W. HAWKINSON, LUVERNE

went to Des Moines, Iowa, where he entered the Dr. S. S. Still college of osteopathy and from which he was graduated in 1905. Dr. Hawkinson then located in the city of New Ulm and began the practice of his profession, and in July, 1906, located at Luverne, where he has since been engaged in practice. The doctor has been very successful in his work in Luverne. In the summer of 1910 he moved into his elegant new home.

Dr. Hawkinson was married in Center City, Chisago county, Minnesota, April 15, 1905, to Wilhelmina Linnell, a student of Gustavus Adolphus college and a teacher. She is a native of Center City and a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. August P. Linnell. Two children have been born to Dr. and Mrs. Hawkinson, LaVerna E., born June 24, 1908; Whilma E., born June 29, 1910. Dr. Hawkinson is a member of the Presbyterian church and of the Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen and Knights of Pythias lodges.

ROBERT D. THOM (1904), the blacksmith of Kenneth, is a native Minnesotan, born near Owatonna, Steele county, May 6, 1878. His mother died when Robert was a child of six years, and from that time until after his twentieth birthday he lived with an uncle, Robert C. Thom, and worked at farm labor. Upon the declaration of war with Spain our subject enlisted in company B, Fifteenth Minnesota volunteers, which was stationed at Camp Ramsey, Minnesota, Camp Meade, Pennsylvania, and Camp McKenzie, Georgia, and was discharged from the service March 27, 1899. After a year spent on the farm, Robert went to Adrian, Minnesota, where he learned the blacksmith trade and worked at it in that town four and a half years. In July, 1904, he moved to Kenneth and established the business which he has since conducted.

Robert D. Thom is the son of Alexander M. and Lelia (Scott) Thom, the former a native of Scotland and the latter of New York state. Alexander M. Thom is a brother of J. C. Thom, ex-sheriff of Nobles county, William Thom (deceased) and F. W. Thom, who were prominent citizens of Nobles county.

At Adrian, on November 27, 1902, Mr. Thom was married to Elizabeth B. Murphy, who was born November 13, 1882, and who is the daughter of J. G. Murphy, of Adrian, a member of the board of commissioners of Nobles county. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Thom, two of whom, Lelia and Joetta, are living.

WILHELM T. KNUDTSON (1888), manager of the Christianson-Ennis Lumber company's yard at Hills, is a native of Rock county and was born October 9, 1888, on the homestead of his father in Beaver Creek township. As a boy he attended the district schools and assisted with the work on the home farm. For two seasons after attaining the age of seventeen Wilhelm was employed as engineer with a threshing crew. In 1907 he commenced his residence at Hills. For a time he worked as a painter and paper-hanger, then for nine months previous to accepting his present position he was employed in the furniture store of Christianson Bros. Mr. Knudtson is the assistant chief of the Hills fire department.

Our subject is one of a family of nine living children, whose parents are K. N. and Laura M. Knudtson, residents of Hills. Both Mr. and Mrs. Knudtson are natives of Norway. They took as a homestead claim the northwest quarter of section 7, Beaver Creek township, at an early date. Besides Wilhelm of this sketch, the children are Mrs. A. J. Daley, of Luverne; Mrs. George Arneson, of Montevideo, Minnesota; Mrs. S. A. Christianson, of Hills; Mrs. S. L. Jordahl, of Canfield, North Dakota; E. H., of Coal Harbor, North Dakota; E. G., of Spokane, Washington; Arthur S., of Seattle, Washington; and Clara, of Bryant, South Dakota.

JOHN C. MANNIGEL (1892), a leading farmer and stock raiser of Denver township, is the owner of the southwest quarter of section 30. A native of the Badger state, he was born in Dodge county the fourth day of August, 1871, the son of Carl and Bertha (Grundwald) Mannigel, both of German birth, and early settlers of Dane county, Wisconsin.

Twelve years after the birth of our subject the family moved from Wisconsin to Hand county, South Dakota, where the father homesteaded land, upon which John lived until attaining his majority. He established himself in Rock county at the age of twenty-one. He hired out as a farm laborer in Mound township for five years, then rented land and commenced his career as an independent farmer. In 1900 he bought eighty acres on section 2, Mound, disposing of the same a year after to become the owner of a quarter on section 7, Denver township. This he sold, and a year later he came into possession of his present farm. Mr. Mannigel raises Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs. He was for four years the assessor of Denver township and was clerk of school district No. 49 for six years. He owns stock in the Farmers Elevator company of Hardwick.

Mr. Mannigel was married in Denver township on December 13, 1897, to Anna Richard, who was born August 6, 1874, the daughter of William and Elizabeth (Therow) Richard, natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Mannigel are parents of the following four children: Elfrieda E., born January 16, 1900; Victor A., born October 17, 1902; Oswald R., born April 22, 1904; and Lucile H., born February 26, 1907. The family are members of the German Lutheran church.

JOHN W. ULRICH (1886) has been connected with the Luverne department store of Nelson Brothers for a period of twenty-one years and is now the secretary of the firm and the manager of the clothing and shoe departments. He entered the employ of the store as a minor clerk when a boy of eighteen years and won deserved promotion, finally, in 1907, being admitted as an active member of the firm.

John Ulrich is a native German. He was born on the thirteenth of December, 1872, the son of Henry and Christina Ulrich, the latter of whom is deceased. Henry Ulrich is now a resident of Adrian, Nobles county. In 1884 the Ulrich family departed from the fatherland and made settlement in America. They were for one year residents of Davenport, Iowa, going from that city direct to a Rock county farm. After a life

of five years on the home farm our subject, in 1890, commenced his residence in Luverne and entered upon the career in which he has been eminently successful.

At Luverne, on October 25, 1890, John W. Ulrich was joined in marriage to Rena Gunderson, a native of Iowa. To these parents has been born one son, Russell.

BENJAMIN G. SUURMYER (1884) has lived on the Rock county farm he now conducts since he was a lad six years of age. Both of his parents, Geerd and Antha (Hagedorn) Suurmyer, were natives of Germany, came to this country at an early day and settled near Freeport, Illinois, where the subject of this biography was born February 9, 1878. In 1884 the family moved to Rock county and settled on land purchased by the father, the northwest quarter of section 14, range 47, Springwater township. Benjamin was educated in the district schools and assisted his father in the management of the home farm. In 1905 he rented the place from his father and has since conducted it for himself.

At Lake Benton, Lincoln county, on March 7, 1905, Benjamin G. Suurmyer was joined in wedlock to Elizabeth C. Meyer, who was born October 21, 1887, the daughter of August and Mary Meyer, of Lake Benton. Four children have been born to this union: Annie M., born June 25, 1906; Albert A., born November 7, 1907; Benjamin C., born January 6, 1909; Lucele Lottie, born October 27, 1910. Mr. and Mrs. Suurmyer are members of the Baptist church.

R. ARENDS (1894) is a Clinton township farmer, residing on the northeast quarter of section 33, who has prospered since taking up his residence in Rock county seventeen years ago. Hanover, Germany, is his birthplace and the date of his nativity is January 16, 1871. His father, A. Arends, still lives in the old country, but his mother, Annie (George) Arends, passed away from this life on December 1, 1904.

Germany was the home of our subject for the first twenty-three years of his life. While there his main occupation was that of farming, though he worked for a time at the machine business and operated a thresh-

ing machine. In 1894 he came to America and direct to Rock county. The first three years after his arrival he worked on his brother's farm near Steen. Then for seven years he rented and conducted the farm on section 28, Clinton township, which is just across the road from his present location. He bought his farm in 1906, and there he has since resided. Mr. Arend's land is of an exceptionally productive quality. Since the farm has come into his possession he has expended more than \$2300 in improvements.

Mr. Arends was married in Martin township on March 22, 1899, to Gesana Ennenga, also a native of Hanover, Germany. They are the parents of seven children, all living at home, namely: Annie, Arend, Mabel, Ralph, John, Gretus and Fannie. The family are members of the Evangelical church of Steen.

DAVID W. McKAY (1885), who farms the south half of section 15, Battle Plain township, is by nativity a Highland Scot, his birth having occurred in Sutherland shire, Scotland, on the fifteenth of August, 1854. His parents, Angus and Helen (Wood) McKay, are both deceased. Angus Wood is buried in Scotland and his wife, who later came to this country, died in Rock county in 1889.

David's life as a Scotch school boy terminated at his fourteenth year, departing at that time from the land of his birth to go to London, and in the world's metropolis he resided for nearly twenty years. During that whole period he was in the employ of a lady of the nobility in the capacity of a footman and trusted servant. His employer was an extensive traveler and as a result Mr. McKay, who invariably accompanied the lady on her trips, visited nearly every quarter of the globe. He came to America and direct to Rock county in 1885. With no previous experience at farming, he commenced an agricultural career that has been entirely successful. For the first five years he farmed near Ashcreek, for half that length of time was located in Luverne township, and then moved to his present location. Mr. McKay is an enthusiastic stock raiser and always maintains a large herd of the best breeds.

David W. McKay was married in London in May, 1880, to Matilda Rollins, of English birth. This union has been blessed by the birth of the following seven children: Nellie, William, Fred, Augustus, George, John and David. The family are members of the Presbyterian church.

WILLIAM MACFADDEN (1885) has resided in Luverne more than a quarter of a century. A Canadian by birth, he was born in the city of London, Ontario, May 31, 1851. At the age of fifteen years he first crossed the border and for four years was located in Dubuque, Iowa. William then returned to Ontario, completed his education at Guelph and then secured employment as a clerk in one of that city's stores.

Mr. Macfadden permanently settled in Uncle Sam's domain in 1874. For eight years he made his home at Dyersville, Iowa, where he engaged in the drug business; then he moved to LeMars, where he was interested in the operation of a bottling plant. He arrived in Luverne on June 26, 1885, and that year in company with Dalton Bros. he established the bottling works, under the firm name of Macfadden & Dalton Bros. Our subject retired from the business at the end of two years and until 1892 he clerked in the store of J. A. Harroun. The eight succeeding years were spent as a knight of the grip for a large wall-paper house; then in 1900 Mr. Macfadden commenced his service with Nelson Bros., with which firm he was connected eleven years. In the early nineties he served two terms as assessor of Luverne. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Masons, the Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen.

Our subject was married on December 30, 1875, at Dyersville, Iowa, to Polly Chesterman, and to this union have been born two sons: Cornelius, a practising dentist at Sherburne, and Harry, of Portland, Oregon, a traveling representative of the American Tobacco company. Mr. Macfadden owns a fine home in Luverne, built in 1901.

WILLIAM V. ALLEN (1897), who has farmed the southeast quarter of section 31, Martin township, for the past fourteen

years, is of Irish and German descent and was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, on the first day of February, 1871. His parents, Edward and Mellisa (Cooley) Allen, are resident of Castalia, Iowa. The former is a native of Illinois, while Mrs. Allen was born in New York state.

William of this sketch was brought up on his father's farm and educated in the district school near by. Winneshiek county continued to be his home until after his twenty-sixth birthday. At that age, in 1897, he moved to Rock county and located on the farm before described, which he rents from his father. Mr. Allen is affiliated with the M. W. A. lodge of Hills.

In Winneshiek county, in October, 1896, Mr. Allen was united in marriage to Bertha Logsdon, a native of that county. She was born April 2, 1880. They are the parents of three children: Glenn, born September 23, 1897; Velma, born March 3, 1899; and Lee, born January 18, 1905.

GEORGE LESLIE (1890) farms 420 acres of Rock county land, located on sections 22 and 26, Springwater township. In Tama county, Iowa, on the seventh of September, 1874, occurred the nativity of George Leslie. His parents, Sylvester and Jenetta (Colaw) Leslie, natives of Pennsylvania and Virginia, respectively, settled in Iowa at an early date. At the age of sixteen George accompanied the family in their removal to Rock county and located on the farm bought by his father, the southeast quarter of section 23, Beaver Creek township. Our subject completed his education in the Rock county schools and at the age of twenty-two rented land and began farming on his own account. He has resided on his present location, the south half of section 22, since 1905.

In Luverne, February 12, 1898, George Leslie and Abbie Gates were joined in the holy bonds of matrimony. Mrs. Leslie is a daughter of Elmer and Mattie (Mason) Gates, the former an Ohioan by birth and the latter a native of the Hawkeye state. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Leslie: Roy G., born December 11, 1899; Elmer S., born June 26, 1902; and Elsie M., born August 22, 1909.

HENRY SAVOLD (1888) is one of the younger business men of Hills, but one that is meeting with success. He is the proprietor of the village meat market, of which he came in possession in the fall of 1910.

Mr. Savold is a Rock county boy and the son of two well known and long established residents of Martin township, Halvor Savold and Mary (Thompson) Savold. The former parent is a native of Winneshiek county, Iowa, who came to Rock county in the late seventies and bought two quarter sections of Martin township's fertile soil. For a time Halvor Savold taught school in that precinct. He was married to Mary Thompson, a native Norwegian, and their home has always been on section 18. Seven children have been born to this esteemed couple, who, besides our subject, are Minnie (Mrs. Ramer Jorgenson), Elmer, Sam, Ella and Roy.

Henry was born on the Martin township home farm November 23, 1888. He attended the district school and later completed a course in the Sioux Falls Business college and also studied telegraphy in Minneapolis. Mr. Savold entered the employ of Carl Omodt, the Hills butcher, from whom he learned that trade, and in 1910 he succeeded to the business of his employer.

The subject of this review was married at Sioux Falls July 19, 1909, to Mabel Conner, of Garretson, South Dakota, whose birth occurred in Des Moines, Iowa, March 18, 1889. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Savold, one a daughter named Marjorie, and a baby girl named Hazel. Henry Savold is the assistant chief of the Hills fire department.

CHARLES A. PALMER (1882) has been engaged in the practice of dentistry in the city of Luverne for nearly thirty consecutive years. A native of New York, he was born in Onondaga county March 20, 1858, the son of Ashley H. and Katherine (Ford) Palmer, also natives of the Empire state. The former named parent died in the city of Syracuse in 1896; the mother still lives there and is in her seventy-seventh year. Charles A. is the oldest living child in a family of six children. An elder brother,

Willis H., has been dead for a number of years.

At an early age our subject removed with his parents to the town of Skaneateles and later to Oswego county. Charles was educated in the high school in the town of Mexico and at the age of sixteen years commenced teaching school, in which he was engaged two and one-half years. He farmed during the summer months and for awhile was employed in the construction of a road then building to Syracuse. Mr. Palmer took up the study of dentistry and for awhile was engaged in practice in Syracuse. He then moved west, locating at Cherokee, Iowa, for one year, and there in company with his brother, Willis, he bought out a leading dentist. Since 1882 he has practised his profession in Luverne. He has his office over the Rock County Bank.

Dr. Palmer was married in Cherokee, Iowa, October 22, 1884, to Cora D. Meeker, who was born in Plattsville, Wisconsin. She is the daughter of A. and E. J. Meeker. They have two children: Douglas, born October 7, 1893, and Ida M., born May 5, 1901.

Dr. Palmer is a prominent Mason, being affiliated with the Blue Lodge and Commandery at Luverne, the chapter in Pipestone and the Shrine at Sioux Falls.

VERNIE RAYMOND (1888), who farms in Springwater township, is Rock county born and bred. He is the son of Emmet and Clara (Nelson) Raymond, natives of Michigan and Illinois, respectively, who, in 1886, settled in Rock county. It was on his father's farm in Rose Dell township that Vernie was born, the eighteenth of December, 1888. He was educated in the district schools and assisted his father with the work on the home farm until the spring of 1910, when he commenced farming on his own account. He makes his home on the northwest quarter of section 1, range 47, of Springwater township. Mr. Raymond is a member of the A. O. U. W. lodge of Luverne.

On the eighth of April, 1907, in Luverne, Vernie Raymond was joined in marriage to Mary Maurice. She was born March 27, 1888, and is the daughter of Charles and

Emma (Bourne) Maurice. Two children have been born to these parents: Lester V., on October 6, 1908; and Walter, on December 2, 1909.

W. F. LYNCH (1884) is a Clinton township farmer who has spent all but the first four years of his life as a resident of Rock county. He is the son of John and Bridget (Fitzgerald) Lynch who are well-known residents of Luverne.

W. F. Lynch is a native Minnesotan, born in Fillmore county February 14, 1880. He moved with his parents to Rock county in March, 1884, the family taking up their abode on the land in section 5, which had been bought by the father and which is today the scene of the son's operations. Our subject's education was received in the district school near the home farm, and after growing to manhood he assisted his father in the management of the place. In the spring of 1907 the elder Mr. Lynch moved to Luverne, and since that date W. F. has rented and successfully farmed the place. He farms two quarter sections, one located on section 5 and the other on section 8.

At Rock Rapids, Iowa, on the twenty-sixth of February, 1908, Mr. Lynch was married to Agness M. Kachelhoffer, who was born in Freeport, Illinois, November 14, 1885. To this union two children were born, Frances Perryetta, on April 9, 1909, and Bridget Devon, on October 24, 1910. Joseph Kachelhoffer, the father of Mrs. Lynch, is still living, but her mother, Lena Kachelhoffer, died July 2, 1892.

Mr. and Mrs. Lynch are members of the Catholic church of Luverne. He is at present serving as treasurer of school district No. 43, receiving the appointment in February, 1910.

GEORGE G. DELATE (1884) is a leading plumber of the city of Luverne. His parents, G. W. and Lucy (Delameter) Delate, were early settlers of Stephenson county, Illinois. The father died in that county in 1871, at the age of forty-seven. His wife, the mother of our subject, lived with her son in Luverne township in 1884.

George G. Delate of this review is a na-

tive of Stephenson county, Illinois, and was born August 12, 1869. He was two years old when his father died but he continued on the home farm with his mother until attaining the age of sixteen years, since which time he has been a resident of Luverne. He attended the public schools one year, was employed on a farm for two years, and was engaged in various other occupations. In 1896 he became connected with the Luverne electric light and water plant, serving for a time as a lineman, later becoming superintendent and engineer of the plant. In 1901 Mr. Delate entered the employ of W. E. E. Greene, plumber. Four years later he became a partner in the business, an association which still continues under the firm name of Greene, Delate & Fritz. The members of the firm are practical and up-to-date plumbers and heaters and do an extensive business. The excellent plumbing and heating systems found in the principal buildings of Luverne have been installed by this firm.

The marriage of Mr. Delate occurred in Jo Daviess county, Illinois, on November 20, 1895, when he wedded Addie King, a native of that county, having been born in 1869. One child, Neaita, has blessed this union. She was born January 30, 1901.

Mr. Delate was at one time a member of the Luverne fire department and he is now a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge.

GEORGE G. BELL (1904) has been a Beaver Creek township farmer for the past seven years and resides on the southwest quarter of section 11, of which he is the owner. He is the son of Andrew and Sarah (Dayton) Bell, natives of Pennsylvania and New York, respectively, both descendants of old American families. Andrew Bell, born in 1819, died at Eldridge, Iowa, on July 4, 1908. In that Iowa town his wife still resides.

George G. Bell of this review first saw the light of day in Scott county, Iowa, on the fourth of September, 1867. He was reared on his father's farm near the city of Davenport and received a country school education. He resided with his parents on the farm of his birth until attain-

ing the age of twenty-five years. He then rented land and commenced farming for himself, an occupation he followed in Scott county ten years. His residence in Rock county began in 1904. He rented his present land from his father-in-law, but came into possession of the property the following year. Mr. Bell owns stock in the Farmers Elevator company of Beaver Creek and in the Independent Harvester company of Plano, Illinois. He served as a director of school district No. 16 for three years. He holds membership in the M. B. A. lodge of Luverne.

Mr. Bell is a man of family. He was married at Davenport, Iowa, to Ella Rochau, the daughter of Frederick and Kathryn (Stoltenberg) Rochau, both deceased. She was born in Scott county April 23, 1872. Mr. and Mrs. Bell are the parents of the following named children: Irene, born August 19, 1894; Ransom, born September 19, 1895; George, born April 14, 1897; Ory, born November 9, 1898; Irvin, born December 24, 1900; Ethel, born November 1, 1902; Lulu, born August 20, 1903; Ila, born June 14, 1905; Arden, born September 15, 1908; and William, born June 6, 1910.

THEODORE S. PAULSON, M. D., (1908), coronor of Rock county and a practising physician of the village of Hills, has been a resident of the county since 1908. He was born in Norway February 4, 1878, the son of S. Paulson and Mina (Hauge) Paulson. For four years after their arrival in America, in 1881, the family lived in the village of Porter's Mills, Wisconsin, and then moved to a farm which the elder Mr. Paulson bought near Dalton, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and there he still resides. Mrs. Paulson, the mother of our subject, died in 1885.

Theodore spent the first three years of his life in the land of his birth. His education commenced in the public schools of Otter Tail county and was continued at Park Region Luther college, of Fergus Falls, the Fergus Falls high school and the state normal school at Moorhead. On leaving the last named institution he was a successful teacher for three years in the counties of Otter Tail, Grant and Clay. He then ma-

triculated at the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Hamline university, at Minneapolis, from which he was graduated in June, 1908. During the last year and a half of his medical school course, Dr. Paulson served as an interne at the Norwegian Deaconess hospital in Minneapolis. In the spring of 1908 he located at Hills for the practice of his profession, in which he has been eminently successful. In the summer of 1910 he built a fine modern residence of cement blocks.

Dr. Paulson was elected to the office of county coroner in the fall of 1908. He is the president of the village board of health and is a member of the citizens' league. He also holds membership in the Minnesota State Medical association and the Southwestern Minnesota Medical association.

At Sioux Falls, on June 8, 1910, Dr. Paulson was united in marriage to Bertha Salvesen, a daughter of Rev. C. S. Salvesen, of Sioux Falls, and a native of that city, born April 19, 1883.

ERNEST BENDT (1889), a prominent Luverne township farmer and stock raiser, first saw the light of day in the province of Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, on the twenty-third of November, 1869. His parents, Peter and Doris (Wiese) Bendt, are living and reside in Lismore township, Nobles county.

Our subject grew to manhood in his native land. His father was a farmer, and Ernest as a youth assisted with the work and attended the neighboring schools. In 1889 his career in America began. He journeyed direct to Luverne, arriving there on the sixteenth of August of the year mentioned. For a little more than a year he worked on a farm near the city and then went to Scott county, Iowa. He secured employment in the saw mills of Davenport and later engaged in farm labor in the immediate vicinity of that city.

But in July, 1893, convinced that there was no place that could beat Rock county, Mr. Bendt returned and has ever since been a resident of the county. For seven years, in partnership with his father, he farmed the old Sam Griffith place in Kanaranzi township. At the expiration of that period

he rented his present farm, the northwest quarter of section 25, Luverne township, and has successfully conducted the place to the present date. He devotes a good deal of attention to the breeding of fancy stock and makes a specialty of the Poland China hog.

Mr. Bendt was joined in the bonds of matrimony to Minnie Harloff in Luverne on February 1, 1901. Mrs. Bendt was born in the same locality in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, as her husband, on June 23, 1883, and came to the United States in 1900. Mr. and Mrs. Bendt are the parents of the following children: Retta, born December 17, 1901; Nellie, born March 16, 1903; Harry, born April 16, 1904; Paul, born March 23, 1906; and Lizzie, born May 4, 1909.

EDWARD BUCKLEY (1883), chief of police of the city of Luverne, was born in Dubuque, Iowa, January 17, 1860, in which city he lived until 1872. His mother died when he was less than a year old, and until his father's death in 1872 he made his home with his father and stepmother. At the age of twelve years he accompanied his stepmother to Vermilion, Dakota territory, where he lived until 1882, working on his stepmother's farm and working out.

Mr. Buckley located in Sioux Falls in 1882, where he resided a short time, working at the plasterer's and brick mason's trades. The next year he located in Luverne, which has ever since been his home. Until the year 1903 he worked at his trade; then he engaged in the implement business in partnership with M. Ryan. Three years later he sold out and during the next three years was engaged in the real estate business. He was appointed chief of police in the spring of 1909. Mr. Buckley owns farm lands in Nobles county and in Canada. He is a member of the M. W. A. lodge.

The parents of our subject were Michael and Hannah (Driscoll) Buckley, natives of Ireland. The mother died in 1860. The father, who was a stone cutter by trade, came to the United States when a young man and located in Dubuque, Iowa. Later he engaged in farming in Iowa and died in the spring of 1872 at the age of fifty-four years. Edward is the youngest of a family

of four children, the other living children being Mary Hart and Hannah Rogers.

Edward Buckley was married in Luverne November 20, 1890, to Lizzie Bliss, a native of Iowa City, Iowa, and a daughter of W. A. Bliss, now a resident of Luverne. Her mother, Katherine Bliss, died in 1891. Mr. and Mrs. Buckley, are the parents of three children, named Willie, Donald and Jessie. Two children, Leo and Edward, have died.

CHARLES E. WURM (1904), a farmer of Vienna township, is a native of Germany and was born in the province of Hanover on August 25, 1853. Both of his parents, Augustus and Henrietta (Just) Wurm, are dead, the former having passed away February 18, 1880, and the latter on December 24, 1908.

Charles came to America with his parents in early infancy and located with them in Shullsburg, Lafayette county, Wisconsin, which was his home for thirty years. He received a common school education and then took up agricultural pursuits in earnest. He farmed in Wisconsin until 1904, the date of his advent to Rock county. That year he rented the east half of section 1, Vienna township, which he has successfully conducted to the present day. Mr. Wurm holds membership in the I. O. O. F. lodge of Shullsburg, Wisconsin, and in the M. W. A. of Magnolia.

Mr. Wurm is a man of family. He was married April 4, 1883, to Rebecca M. Samson, whose birth occurred at Platteville, Wisconsin, March 24, 1859. To this union have been born the following named children: Clyde, born April 4, 1884; Vance, born July 5, 1886; Ernest, born September 4, 1888; Roscoe, born June 1, 1891; Reba, born October 19, 1893; Ula, born July 25, 1896; and Delbert, born October 22, 1900.

EMIL ANDRESEN (1892) has been identified with the agricultural interests of Rock county since 1892. He was born in the city of Christiania, Norway, on August 5, 1870. His father, Hans F. Andresen, was employed in a large factory and died in Christiania in 1900. The mother of our sub-

ject, Karen (Evensen) Andresen, is now a resident of Hardwick.

Departing from native shores at the age of twenty-two, Emil journeyed alone to the new world and on landing came direct to Rock county. He was employed at farm labor five years near Bruce, and later was similarly employed in Rose Dell township. He rented land in 1900 and commenced farming on his own account. He has worked several different pieces of land, but has resided on his present place, the northeast quarter of section 21, Rose Dell, since 1906. He raises Chester White hogs. Mr. Andresen is the owner of a quarter section of land in Dawson county, Montana, which he bought in the spring of 1910. With his family he belongs to the Synod Norwegian Lutheran church.

In Rose Dell township, on September 26, 1900, Emil Andresen and Sophia Houg were united in wedlock. Mrs. Andresen is the daughter of Jens and Magdeline (Olson) Houg, natives of Norway, and was born on November 29, 1873. The following five children have been born to this union: Harold J., born July 3, 1901; Carl M., born January 30, 1903; Frederick O., born May 29, 1905; Einar S., born September 3, 1907; and Milton G., born March 12, 1910.

CHARLES E. COLBY (1880), station agent of the Great Northern railroad at Russell, Minnesota, is a native of Rock county, having been born on his father's homestead in Martin township July 26, 1880. He grew to manhood on the farm of his birth, attended the public school at Hills and the Valder & Oliver Business college at Decorah, Iowa, and in 1903 began working at the telegrapher's trade at the Great Northern station of Hills.

Mr. Colby left Hills and for six months was employed in the Great Northern station at Willmar. Thereafter he served as operator and relieving agent at Litchfield, Dassel and Marshall, in Minnesota; at Sioux Center, in Iowa; and at Brunswick and Page, in Nebraska; and then for a time was agent at Leeds (Sioux City), Iowa. Mr. Colby then became operator for the Soo line at Hawkinson, North Dakota. We next find our subject at Booge, South Dakota, where he was the Great Northern

station agent for about two years. He took the position of agent and operator at Russell in July, 1909, and has since resided there.

At Cottonwood, Minnesota, on June 29, 1905, Mr. Colby was married to Julia Bly, a native of Illinois. They have three children, Earl, Irving and Mae.

Charles E. Colby is the son of Erick and Helena (Thorson) Colby. His parents were born in Stavanger, Norway, came to the United States when children, and settled in Dane county, Wisconsin. From there Erick Colby enlisted in the union army and served a three years' enlistment. The family later located at Clear Lake, Iowa, and in the pioneer days of 1873 came to Rock county. The head of the family secured the north half of section 10, Martin township, on homestead and timber claim filings, on which he erected the first frame house in the township. Erick Colby died in 1904 at the age of sixty-five years; Helena Colby resides at Hills.

There were ten children in the family, of whom the following named eight are living: Ellis, Tom, Christ and Ella, of Hills; Ben, of Hudson, South Dakota; Ed., of Sioux Falls; Dora J., of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada; and Charles E.

ADOLPH A. HANSON (1910) became the editor and publisher of the Hills Crescent on the first day of September, 1910, succeeding the firm of Finke & Nash, who had presided over the destinies of that journal for a period of fourteen years. The new editor has maintained the prestige of the Crescent as a paper of marked influence in the affairs of Rock county.

A native Iowan, Mr. Hanson is one of seven children who were born to Andrew and Kristi Hanson, both of whom emigrated from their native land of Norway to America early in life. Andrew Hanson was first located in Dane county, Wisconsin. At the outbreak of the civil war he was one of the first to enlist as a volunteer in company E, Fifteenth Wisconsin infantry. At the memorable engagement on Island No. 10, in Tennessee, while engaged in an attempt to unspike the cannon of the confederate battery, Mr. Hanson suffered from a serious sun stroke, which re-

sulted in a protracted illness. This was at the close of a two years' faithful service, and because of this misfortune he received an honorable discharge. At the close of his military career he homesteaded in Clay county, Iowa, and died in Decorah in 1901. Kristi Hanson, the mother of our subject, died February 2, 1909. The following are the other four children in the family, who are living: Mrs. Josephine Hauge, of Ossian, Iowa; Mrs. Matilda Nasse, of Fairfield, Montana; Mrs. Hulda Foss, of Kanawha, Iowa; and Oscar C. Hanson, of Estherville, Iowa. Two sons are dead: Henry, who died in 1903, at the age of forty-seven; and Spicer, who passed away in 1887 in his sixteenth year.

Adolph A. Hanson was born in a sod house in Clay county, Iowa, August 22, 1879. At the age of seven he moved with his parents to Decorah, Iowa, which continued to be his home until 1908. In that city he received a public school education, and at the age of fifteen he entered the employ of the Decorah Journal to learn the printer's trade. He readily became proficient in that art and was connected in various capacities with the papers of his home city until the fall of 1908, when in partnership with James Halloran he became publisher of the Hampton, Iowa, Globe. At the end of a year and a half Mr. Hanson disposed of his interest in the business to his partner; then in September, 1910, he commenced his residence in Hills.

The marriage of our subject to Sophia Thompson occurred at Decorah, Iowa, October 29, 1902, and to this union have been born a son and a daughter: Florence A. and Roy V. Mrs. Hanson is a native of Northwood, Iowa.

JULIUS KROGMANN (1896), Rose Dell township farmer, is a native of Germany and was born in the province of Holstein March 30, 1870. Six years later he came to America with his parents, Peter and Julia (Severt) Krogmann, and located with them in Cedar county, Iowa. He was educated in the district schools and resided on the home farm until 1896, the date of his advent to Rock County. He has farmed continuously since, with the exception of

two years, when he was a resident of Luverne. He has rented and lived upon the southwest quarter of section 32, Rose Dell, since 1908. Mr. Krogmann is the owner of a quarter section of land in Knox county, Nebraska.

In Luverne, on March 30, 1896, Julius Krogmann was united in marriage to Dora Severt, the daughter of Mathias and Catherine (Reder) Severt. Mathias Severt died in 1901 and his widow now resides with her daughter. The following three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Krogmann: Elsie, born April 3, 1899; John, born April 13, 1904; and a son, born July 4, 1910. Our subject is a member of the lodge of Modern Woodmen.

JACOB W. GERBER (1878), proprietor of a Luverne hardware store, is one of the early day residents of that city and one of its oldest business men, having been in the hardware business there over thirty years. During this long residence Mr. Gerber has been identified with many of the enterprises of his home city.

Our subject was born in Oneida county, New York, November 12, 1854, the youngest child in a family of six children born to George P. and Catherina (Miller) Gerber. These parents came from Germany in an early day and settled in New York state. They came west in 1856 and located in Pepin county, Wisconsin, where they resided until their death, the father in November, 1893, and the mother in March, 1894.

When he was two years of age Jacob Gerber accompanied his parents to Durand, Pepin county, Wisconsin, and there he was educated and secured his education. He served an apprenticeship to the tinner's trade in Durand and in 1875 moved to Lake City, Minnesota, where he worked at the trade until 1878. On the twenty-third day of February of that year Mr. Gerber located in the little village of Luverne. For two years he worked at his trade in a hardware store, and then, in 1880, forming a partnership with Angus Ross, he bought the hardware business of J. S. Wheeler. For several years the business was conducted under the firm name of Gerber & Ross, but on March 1, 1886,

Mr. Gerber bought his partner's interests and he has since conducted the business alone. He built his present business house in 1893. He has prospered and is rated among the successful business men of the county seat. He owns one of the finest homes in the city.

Besides his hardware business Mr. Gerber has interested himself in several lines of business. He is vice president of the Farmers National Bank (organized in 1887). He is also a stockholder in the First National Bank, in the Luverne Automobile company, the Luverne Pressed Brick company and in the Manitou Hotel company. For four years he served as a member of the city council. Mr. Gerber is a member of many Masonic orders, holding membership in the Blue Lodge of Luverne, the Chapter of Worthington, Luverne Commandry No. 22, Minneapolis Consistory No. 2 and Osman Temple of Mystic Shrine of St. Paul. He is also a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge.

The marriage of Mr. Gerber occurred at Lake City, Minnesota, January 8, 1879, when he wedded Etta G. Dilly. She is a daughter of Mathias and Margaretta Dilly and was born at Meadville, Pennsylvania, August 27, 1855. To this union has been born one child, Harold W., born May 31, 1887.

CHARLES W. GRAAF (1900), in partnership with his brother, Herman G. Graaf, owns the only exclusive clothing and shoe stores in Luverne, of which our subject is the manager. The brothers opened the store in Luverne on January 1, 1900, in the new building now occupied by them, and each year since has noted a steady progress in the business. Many improvements have been made in the store building and interior arrangement since the opening, and they have two of the finest stores of their kind in southwestern Minnesota. They handle a complete line of clothing and make a specialty of men's and boys' shoes. The brothers also own a clothing store at Estherville, Iowa. Herman G. Graaf resides in St. Paul and represents a fur manufacturing company. The firm name Graaf Brothers is an old one and the Graafs have been in the cloth-

ing business many years. Over thirty years ago the father of our subject and his brother, J. H. Graaf, who owns the building in Luverne occupied by Graaf brothers, started a clothing store in Wilton Junction, Iowa, under the name of Graaf Brothers, and the firm name has been perpetuated.

Charles W. Graaf was born in Wilton Junction, Muscatine county, Iowa, July 8, 1874. At the age of seven years he accompanied his parents to Estherville, Iowa, where he grew to manhood and where he received his early education. He completed his schooling in a commercial college at Muscatine, Iowa. While attending high school, at the age of sixteen years, he began working, driving a United States express wagon mornings, noons and nights. During a part of this time he also assisted in a drug store. At the age of seventeen years he began clerking in his father's clothing store at Estherville and was a clerk in the store until he moved to Luverne, his brother having in the meantime purchased his father's store. Then the two brothers formed the partnership already mentioned and our subject located in Luverne to take the management of the store.

The father of our subject was Henry G. Graaf, who was born in Germany and who came to the United States when fourteen years old. He located first in Davenport, Iowa, and later in Wilton Junction, where he was married and where he engaged in the clothing and tailoring business in partnership with his brother. Seventeen years after his marriage Mr. Graaf located in Estherville, Iowa, where he resided until his death, which occurred in 1905 while en route from California, where he had been spending the winter months. He was sixty years of age at the time of his death. The mother of our subject is Maggie (Schwartz) Graaf, who is a native of Ohio and whose parents were early settlers of Wilton Junction. She now resides at Estherville and is sixty-two years of age. There were five children in this family, named as follows: Herman, Henry, Charles W., Etta and Anna, who died at the age of twenty-nine years.

Charles W. Graaf was married in Luverne August 12, 1902, to Julia E. Pullen,

who was born in Chicago November 3, 1876. She is a daughter of E. S. and Nettie Fullen, both of whom reside at Aberdeen, South Dakota. Mr. and Mrs. Graaf have three children, named as follows: Lucile E., born May 29, 1904; Gerald G., born January 1, 1906; Evelyn M., born February 15, 1908. Mr. Graaf is a member of the Presbyterian church and of the Knights of Pythias and Masonic orders, including Knights Templar.

WILLIAM GOETTSCH (1901) owns and farms the northwest quarter of section 35, Springwater township. He is the son of Hans and Anna (Schlopkoehl) Goettsch, natives of Germany, who came to America at an early date and settled in Scott county, Iowa. On his father's farm in that county our subject was born May 9, 1864, and in the near by district school he received his education. He farmed rented land in Cedar county for twelve years and in 1901 located on his present Rock county farm, which he had bought two years previous. Mr. Goettsch has been the clerk of school district No. 46 for the past nine years. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator company of Luverne, and in the Independent Harvester company of Plano, Illinois. He is a member of the M. W. A. lodge.

While still a resident of Scott county, on February 19, 1889, Mr. Goettsch was joined in wedlock to Amelia Langmann, who was born June 16, 1867, the daughter of John and Mary (Schmeta) Langmann, both natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Goettsch are the parents of the following six children: Hilda I., born February 7, 1890; Edna V., born June 23, 1891; Elsie M., born July 7, 1893; Anna M., born August 12, 1897; Harry A., born September 27, 1900; and Verona E., born December 20, 1908.

THEODORE THOMPSON (1880) has spent his entire life in Rock county and more particularly in Martin township. He is the son of Gilbert and Martha Thompson, the former a native of Norway and the latter of Wisconsin. They homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 19, Martin township, in pioneer days.

Theodore was born on the old homestead

June 28, 1880, and was educated in the district schools of the vicinity. He assisted his father in the conduct of the home farm until the first year of his manhood, in 1901, since which time he has rented from his father and successfully farmed the northwest quarter of section 25, range 47. Mr. Thompson makes a specialty of breeding thoroughbred Shorthorn cattle. He has served as treasurer of school district No. 34 for the past six years and is a member of the Synod Norwegian Lutheran church.

Our subject was married in Luverne on July 16, 1902, to Helman Peterson. She was born in December, 1884, and is a daughter of Lars and Maria (Clawsen) Peterson, of Martin township. Four children have come into the home of Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, named as follows: Mildred, born May 13, 1903; Gladys, born May 7, 1905; Clifford, born July 17, 1907; and Helen, born October 6, 1909.

OTTO WIKNER (1907) has for four years past been a Rock county resident and farmer of Springwater township. He was born in Westerbottom; Sweden, on December 8, 1860. He is the son of Johan and Elizabeth (Haaket) Wikner, both of whom are buried in the old country.

The father of our subject was a small farmer, and also conducted a grocery business, and Otto assisted in the management of these interests until he was twenty-two years of age. Then he came to the United States and to Sioux Falls, South Dakota. For a time he was employed in the stone quarries and on a farm; then he entered the employ of Dr. A. Zettlitz, whom he served as coachman for seven years. In 1901 he commenced farming near Sioux Falls and in 1907 settled in Rock county. He has since rented and farmed the southeast quarter of section 11, range 47, Springwater township. Mr. Wikner is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church and of the A. O. U. W. lodge.

On October 15, 1898, in Sioux Falls, Otto Wikner was married to Yakanna Fallman, who was born September 24, 1870, the daughter of Gust and Caroline (Nataulson) Fallman. To these parents have been born the following named children: Otto Ralph,

born August 31, 1899; Gustav Arnold, born August 21, 1901, died November 21, 1902; Hellen Elizabeth, born August 31, 1902; Hulda Johannah, born November 7, 1905; Gladys Irene, born May 27, 1908.

A. J. DALEY (1885), a prominent attorney of Luverne and southwestern Minnesota, has been continuously engaged in the practice of law in that city for twenty-two years. In 1889 he moved to the county seat from Beaver Creek, where he had been engaged in the mercantile and real estate business since 1885.

John and Mary (Ness) Daley, the parents of our subject, were married shortly after arrival to this country from their native land, Norway. That was in the year 1852. The Daleys were among the pioneer settlers of Dane county, Wisconsin, where it was John Daley, the father, died in 1864. His farm, taken at that early date, was purchased from the government at a cost of \$1.25 per acre. The mother makes her home with her son in Luverne. A. J. Daley has one living brother, John J. Daley, of Choteau, Montana. Halvor J. Daley, the other of three sons, died at Madison, Minnesota, in September, 1905, while serving as register of deeds of Lac Qui Parle county.

Mr. Daley of this review was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, May 25, 1857, and there he grew to manhood. He left Wisconsin at the age of twenty-one to become a Minnesotan. He located in Goodhue, one of the eastern counties, and was engaged in educational work there practically up to the time of removing to Rock county and Beaver Creek in the year already noted. Since establishing his residence in Luverne Mr. Daley has been an active spirit in the promotion of that city's substantial growth along many different lines, civic, moral and intellectual. Fraternally he is a Knight of Pythias, and at present is the keeper of records and seals of the local lodge.

When the question of changing the municipal government of Luverne from the village form to that of a city was first introduced Mr. Daley was selected to head the board of fifteen leading citizens appointed by the district court to take steps



RESIDENCE OF A. J. DALEY, LUVERNE



RESIDENCE OF J. W. GERBER, LUVERNE

necessary to bring about the change. After due deliberation this board of 1900 decided that it was inadvisable to incorporate under a special charter such as the charter board had authority to prepare, but completed its work by recommending that the necessary action be taken to create a city government under the provisions of the general statutes of the state. This step was finally taken four years later under the direction of Mr. Daley, who served as village attorney during this entire period. A petition signed by 347 freeholders of the city, dated July 1, 1904, was filed with the judge of probate and the intended results soon followed. Luverne commenced its career as a city with the first election under the new charter, held September 6, 1904. Mr. Daley was retained by the new council as the first city attorney.

Mr. Daley is a man of family. His marriage to Nellie Knudtson was solemnized at Beaver Creek the first of May, 1886. Mrs. Daley is a native of Allamakee county, Iowa, and the daughter of Knudt N. and Laura M. Knudtson, early day settlers of Beaver Creek township. The following seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Daley: Walter O., who manages the San Benito, Texas, farm of his father; Ethel, Maud, Mabel, Grace, Ernest and Marie.

GUS AXELSEN (1891), farmer and extensive stock raiser of Magnolia township, is a native of Benton county, Iowa, his nativity occurring the twenty-fifth day of January, 1880. He is the son of Adolph and Minnie (Schroeder) Axelsen, both natives of Germany. The mother died when Gus was an infant. The father came to the United States in 1872. He located in Benton county, Iowa, where he remained twelve years, engaged in farming and later in the hotel business. Going to Miller, South Dakota, in 1884, he filed on a homestead and made that his residence until 1891, when he arrived in Rock county. He engaged in farming nine years, at the end of which time he moved to Sherman, South Dakota, where he still lives at an advanced age.

Gus Axelsen accompanied his father

from Iowa to Miller, South Dakota, and in 1891 to Rock county, which he has since made his home. He was brought up on his father's farm and attended the district school. At the age of twenty he commenced farming for himself. For three years he was associated with his brothers in the management of a large farm. Six years ago he located on his present farm in Magnolia township, the northwest quarter of section 4.

On December 30, 1903, in Loop City, Nebraska, the marriage of Mr. Axelsen to Clara Hooper was solemnized. Mrs. Axelsen is a native of Adams county, Nebraska.

HANNAH (HARBERS) BRUSSE (1884) has resided in Beaver Creek township since 1884 and is the widow of Gerret Bruce, who in that year filed a tree claim to the west half of the northeast quarter of section 30, which has since been the family home. Our subject was born in Holland November 12, 1866, the daughter of Benjamin and Dora (Abenhorst) Harbers. She accompanied her parents to America and located with them in Fillmore county, Minnesota. Later, Benjamin and Dora Harbers became residents of Kansas.

Hannah Harbers was married at Green Leaf, Minnesota, on February 11, 1884, to Gerret Bruce, and the same year the young couple established their home in Rock county. Mr. Bruce was also a native of Holland, was born June 9, 1852, and when young in life journeyed with his parents to America and to Fillmore county, Minnesota. His death occurred April 17 1909.

Eight children were born to this union, and three of these have been called with their father by the grim reaper. The names of the children follow: Minnie G., born January 19, 1885; Lucy, born August 27, 1886, died September 9, 1886; Cora M., born January 19, 1888; Harry H., born October 28, 1890; Daisy E., born April 22, 1893, died November 9, 1902; Ida M., born August 15, 1896, died December 15, 1901; Ruth E., born September 1, 1898; and Leland V., born March 26, 1908. The family are members of the Beaver Creek Presbyterian church.

ED. J. DUNBAR (1896) is the manager of the elevator of the Beaver Creek Grain company, which is owned by a co-operative company in which a number of the leading business men and farmers of Beaver Creek and vicinity are interested. The company was organized in 1905 and the same year purchased the elevator property of the Skewis & Moen Grain company. The present officers are: President, B. M. Pengra; secretary, J. S. Crawford; treasurer, Charles Spalding; manager, E. J. Dunbar. The board of directors consists of Henry Rochau, Andrew Ingleson, Theodore Falk and Howard F. Cummings. The staples in which the company deals are grain, coal and twine.

Ed. J. Dunbar of this review is a native of Manitowoc, Wisconsin, and was born July 12, 1864. He lived with his parents and attended school in his home town until 1881, and for the next twelve years was engaged in teaching school at Gary, South Dakota, and at Lac qui Parle, Minnesota. Then for a year he bought grain in Gary, South Dakota, moving from that place to Beaver Creek in 1896 to accept a position with Hubbard & Palmer. He was connected with that firm for seven years, resigning to accept his present position with the co-operative company. For a number of years Mr. Dunbar efficiently served on the village council and was the president of that body for several terms. Fraternally he is affiliated with the I. O. O. F., M. W. A. and Yeomen lodges.

The father of our subject is Mike Dunbar, who came to the United States from Ireland in young manhood. He was first located in Canada, later in New York, and then went as a pioneer in the late forties to Manitowoc county, Wisconsin. He became a land owner and was engaged in farming until arriving at an advanced age, when he retired and deeded the old farm to his children. He now resides in Beaver Creek with his son Joseph. His wife died some fifteen years ago. They were the parents of five sons and two daughters, one of whom, Sarah, has been dead for eighteen years. The living children are John, of Manitowoc, Wisconsin; Will, of Langford, North Dakota; Ed. J., of this sketch; Joseph, of Beaver Creek; George, of Beaver Creek, and Maggie

(Mrs. McDermott), of Beaver Creek township.

Mr. Dunbar was married to Maggie Bilby at Lac qui Parle, Minnesota, on March 4, 1892. Mrs. Dunbar was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, in 1871 and is the daughter of John and Katherine Bilby, now residents of Idaho. They have two adopted children, George and Grace.

JOHN CAMERON (1908), proprietor of a Luverne grocery store, is a native of Sarnia, Ontario, Canada, and was born February 22, 1855. His parents were Duncan and Christina (Finlayson) Cameron, both natives of Scotland. They came to America when children, were married in Canada, and spent the remainder of their lives there.

John Cameron, who was one of a family of twelve children, resided on the home farm in his native county until twenty-four years of age, receiving a common school education and assisting with the farm work. He went to Garnett, Kansas, in 1878, remained there one year, and then returned to his old home. In the fall of 1880 he made the trip overland to the wilds of North Dakota to seek his fortune in that new country. There he secured government land on the outskirts of civilization, taking a homestead, pre-emption and tree claim. When the Great Northern railroad built through North Dakota Mr. Cameron was the first person to pay passage over it from Grand Forks to Fargo. He encountered many hardships incident to pioneer life in that frontier region in the early eighties, where he lived twenty-seven and one-half years. He is a member of the Red River Valley Old Settlers union.

On his farm in Grand Forks county Mr. Cameron lived until the spring of 1891; then he went to Thompson, North Dakota, and engaged in the hardware and machinery business. He sold out at Thompson in 1905 and during the next two years was engaged in the real estate business at Fargo. During his residence on the farm Mr. Cameron served part of the time as chairman of the board of supervisors of Michigan township, Grand Forks county, and while living in Thompson was a mem-

ber of the board of education nine years and justice of the peace two years. In February, 1908, Mr. Cameron located in Luverne, bought the "Handy Grocery," and has since been engaged in the grocery business. He has one of the largest and best exclusive grocery stores in the city and has built up an excellent trade. Besides his Luverne property Mr. Cameron owns a section of land in Adams county and a section in Hettinger county, North Dakota.

In Sarnia, Ontario, Canada, on the eighth day of March, 1882, Mr. Cameron was united in marriage to Agnes Smith, a native of Sarnia and a former school-mate of Mr. Cameron. She is the daughter of Robert and Elizabeth (White) Smith. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Cameron: Lena (Mrs. Arthur Beers), of Wessington Springs, South Dakota; May, Earl and Claud.

J. A. THORIN (1897), who owns and farms a half section of Martin township's fertile soil, is a native of Sweden, where his earthly career began August 22, 1871. Both of his parents, John and Louisa (Larson) Thorin, still reside in the old country.

The father of our subject was a school teacher and as a consequence J. A. Thorin received a careful education under the parental roof. At the age of nineteen Mr. Thorin bade farewell to native land and came to the new world, arriving in New York City on February 26, 1890. For seven months he resided at Bainbridge, Chenango county, New York; then he moved to the vicinity of the county seat, Norwich, where he was employed on a dairy farm fifteen months. Striking for the west, he located for the next fifteen months at Batavia, Illinois, and followed the occupation of coachman. A longer residence was made at Rock Rapids, Iowa, where his time was divided between work on near by farms and on the section. In 1897 he commenced farming for himself in Lyon county, just across the Iowa line from his present location. His Iowa farm was rented from O. M. Skattum. In 1907 he moved to the Rock county farm, on section 33, Martin township, which passed into his hands

three years later. Mr. Thorin is an extensive raiser of high grade stock.

The marriage of Mr. Thorin to Matilda Dahl occurred at Rock Rapids on April 23, 1895. Mrs. Thorin is a native of Norway and came to the United States in 1887. They are the parents of seven children: Leonard, Carl, Mabel, Arthur, Amel, Louisa and Emma. Mr. Thorin is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and of the M. W. A. lodge.

ED. S. EBERLEIN (1890), a prominent Clinton township farmer since 1890, is a native of Aurora, Illinois, where he was born on December 18, 1867. He is the son of Andrew and Barbara (Bower) Eberlein, natives of Germany, who came to America at an early date and settled in Illinois.

At the age of seven our subject accompanied his parents in their removal to Grundy county, Iowa, and on the home farm he remained until his twenty-third birthday, and it was there that he received his schooling. Coming to Rock county in 1890, in partnership with his brother, he bought a farm on section 15, Clinton township, where he remained until 1899. Selling out his interest in the land, he made another investment, taking the northwest quarter of section 11, in the same township, where he now resides. He served on the township board of supervisors for three years.

Mr. Eberlein has been married twice. His first wife was Annie Martin Eberlein, who died in November, 1889, nine months after their marriage. At Luverne, in January, 1893, Mr. Eberlein was again married, this time to Edith Smith, the daughter of Morris and Maria Smith. Her father died in 1904, but her mother still lives in Luverne. On child, Clifford, born to this union, died in 1904 at the age of ten. The children living are Mildred I., Neva M., Stanley E., Bernard L. and Ila. Mr. Eberlein is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen lodge.

OLE O. ORMSETH (1891) has been a resident of America and of Rock county for the past twenty years. A native of Norway, he was born in Thingvold, Tron-

dnhem, the thirtieth of June, 1867. His parents, Ole and Maren (Gjorsvig) Ormseth, were small farmers in that northern country.

Ole received a common school training and at the age of nineteen commenced the shaping of his own career. He served one year as an enlisted man in the Norwegian army. In 1891 he crossed the Atlantic alone and journeyed direct to Rock county. He hired out as a farm laborer in Beaver Creek township for a number of years and in 1899 set up in farming on his own account. In 1904 he moved to his present farm, which he owns and which is the southwest quarter of section 35, range 47, Springwater township. Mr. Ormseth and family are members of the Synod Norwegian Lutheran church.

Ole O. Ormseth was married in Beaver Creek township May 30, 1898, to Emma Larson, who was born March 4, 1878, and who is a daughter of Gunder and Aslang (Benson) Larson, both natives of Norway. To Mr. and Mrs. Ormseth have been born six children: Agnes M., Orlando G., Earnest W., Martha A., Effie O. and Robert O.

HERBERT C. TIBBETTS (1910) is a late addition to the ranks of Luverne's business men, being proprietor of the Luverne steam laundry, which he purchased from John E. Maxedon in January, 1910.

Mr. Tibbetts is the youngest son of Thomas J. and Helen L. Tibbetts and was born December 15, 1871, in Concord township, Dodge county, Minnesota. He lived on the farm with his parents until the spring of 1893, when they moved to West Concord village, where his mother still resides and where his father died in August, 1909. While living on the farm Mr. Tibbetts attended the high school at Mantorville, from which school he was graduated in 1890. After leaving the farm Mr. Tibbetts attended the dairy school at St. Anthony Park, from which school he was granted one of the first diplomas given to the buttermakers of the state. He successfully operated creameries for more than fifteen years at Mantorville, Claremont and Lakefield, Minnesota, and at Hope and Edgeley, North Dakota. At the last named place he was engaged in the laundry as

well as the creamery business. On coming to Luverne he bought and installed the greater part of his machinery in the plant at Luverne.

Since coming to Luverne Mr. Tibbetts has made many improvements in the plant, among some of which are a plant for softening water, a late shirt and collar ironer and a fifteen horsepower steam engine, thus giving Luverne as up-to-date a laundry and French dry cleaning plant as can be found in southwestern Minnesota.

Mr. Tibbetts was married February 8, 1898, at Mantorville, Minnesota, to Eliza Andrist, who died May 8, 1903. One son was born at Claremont, Minnesota, February 12, 1901. On October 25, 1905, Mr. Tibbetts was married a second time to Thresa Mayes, at Jamestown, North Dakota.

DRYDEN J. STOAKES (1893) is engaged in the business of buying and shipping stock and also conducts a butcher shop in the village of Hardwick. He is the second in a family of nine children, the son of George and Alice (Barber) Stoakes, and was born in Tama county, Iowa, May 10, 1868. His father and mother, natives of Ohio and Connecticut, respectively, were pioneer settlers of Tama county, homesteading there in the early sixties, when Cedar Rapids was the nearest trading point. They are still respected residents of Tama county, where they live at advanced ages.

Until he was eighteen years old Dryden lived on the old homestead in Tama county, attended the district schools and assisted his father with the work on the farm. Then until 1893 he was a farmer and extensive stock raiser of Humboldt county, Iowa. During the year mentioned Mr. Stoakes moved to Hardwick and erected the business building now occupied by E. C. Heckt as a general store, and in it conducted a hardware and farm implement business for three years. On selling out he took up the line of work he has since followed, the buying and feeding of stock for the large markets. For six years he was in the retail meat business and again in the spring of 1910 he entered the field, and now runs the up-to-date shop of the village.

Mr. Stoakes is a large property holder in Hardwick, owning, besides a number of valuable lots, the two-story building occupied by Dr. Whyte and a handsome residence. He has been a member of the village council with the exception of one year during the entire period that has elapsed since Hardwick became a corporation. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. and M. W. A. lodges.

* At Goldfield, Iowa, on December 18, 1889, Mr. Stoakes was wedded to Nellie Field, a native of Illinois, born April 4, 1872. They are the parents of the following five children: Jay W., born October 4, 1891; Ray G., born August 11, 1895; May, born June 10, 1897; Fay, born February 12, 1901; Ralph, born May 7, 1909.

NELS O. EGGE (1907), a farmer of Martin township, is a native of Lyon county, Iowa, and was born in the town of Inwood April 8, 1879. His parents, Ole and Engebor (Moen) Egge, came from their native land of Norway to the United States in 1876. They first located at Decorah, Iowa, going from there to Lyon county.

Nels was educated in the district schools and lived on the home farm until attaining his majority. Much of the time he was employed at farm labor on other farms in the vicinity. In 1901 Mr. Egge enlisted in the United States army at Omaha, Nebraska. He was assigned to company I, First infantry, and for thirteen months was stationed with his command in the Philippines. After serving three years, he received his discharge at Buffalo, New York, on December 18, 1904. Immediately thereafter he returned to Lyon county, rented land and farmed until the spring of 1907, when he located on his present Martin township farm, the southeast quarter of section 19.

At Inwood, Iowa, on March 14, 1905, Nels O. Egge was married to Gunda Hanson, who was born January 13, 1888, and is the daughter of Ingwald and Gurine Hanson, of Martin township. Three children have blessed this union, named as follows: Inez O., Theresa E. and Evelyn J. Mr. and Mrs. Egge belong to the Synod Norwegian Lutheran church.

WILLIAM C. GLENN (1901) owns and farms the northwest quarter of section 35, range 47, Springwater township. His birth occurred in Sioux county, Iowa, on the day of the autumnal equinox, September 21, 1876. He is the son of Mike and Catherine (Boyle) Glenn, natives of Ireland and Canada, respectively.

When seven years of age William moved with his parents to a farm near LeMars, Plymouth county, Iowa. In that locality he received a rural school education. On leaving home he went to Sioux City, where for twelve years he was employed as a motorman by the street railway company. His longing for the farm returned, and in the selection of a location no locality offered more attractive inducements than did Rock county, his home for the past ten years. Mr. Glenn holds membership in the M. W. A. lodge.

At Luverne, on May 16, 1901, William C. Glenn was joined in wedlock to Betha S. Rademacher, who was born February 6, 1880. One child, Alice E., was born to these parents, May 19, 1909.

ARNE FRESVIK (1894) has lived and labored in Rock county since 1894, when he came, a youth of sixteen, from his motherland across the seas. He is the son of Sjur and Guri (Tvedt) Fresvik.

Arne Fresvik of this review began his earthly career in the hamlet of Fresvik, Hardanger, Norway, February 25, 1878. He received the education afforded by the common schools of his native country and in 1894 came to America and direct to Rock county. For some time he worked for an uncle in Beaver Creek township. His father having died in the spring of 1898, Arne journeyed to Norway in the fall of the same year to settle family affairs. He returned to the land of his adoption the following spring, accompanied by his mother, who still makes her home with him. Since 1909 our subject has rented and farmed the northwest quarter of section 23, range 47, Springwater township.

At Jasper, on November 21, 1901, Arne Fresvik was joined in marriage to Gurtie Larson, the daughter of Ole and Torbjor (Tvedt) Larson, well known residents of Springwater. Both parents are natives of

Norway. Mrs. Fresvik was born January 16, 1879. To this union two children have been born, Ole S., born December 14, 1902, and Selmer G., born May 29, 1906. The family are members of the United Norwegian Lutheran church.

SIMON S. STANDISH (1890), deceased, until his death in the spring of 1911, farmed the northeast quarter of section 10, Beaver Creek township, land which he rented from his mother. There is in the possession of the Standish family a history which traces the ancestry in an unbroken line back to Miles Standish, the man immortalized by the poet Longfellow. Simon S. Standish was of the ninth generation of the family. His parents were Samuel and Mary (Wright) Standish, the former a native of Warren, Maine, and the latter of New York state. Samuel Standish was by occupation a farmer and died September 20, 1890, at the age of seventy-three years. The mother is still living and resides at Dixon, Iowa.

Scott county was the seat of the birth of Simon Standish, an event which occurred December 29, 1868. He was educated in the rural schools and assisted his father in the cultivation of the home farm until coming to Rock county in 1890, at the age of twenty-two. In that year he located on the Beaver Creek township farm, where he afterwards maintained a continuous residence, with the exception of two years, when he hired out to other farmers in the vicinity. Mr. Standish met an accidental death in the spring of 1911.

In Luverne, on February 20, 1895, Simon S. Standish and Tina Bielfeldt were united in marriage. Mrs. Standish was also born in Scott county, Iowa, on May 13, 1874. To this union nine children were born, two of whom, John Ray, the first born, and Cecil, the youngest child, are dead. The names of the other children are: Sadie, born August 2, 1896; Lester, born October 11, 1898; Lester, born March 27, 1899; Miles, born December 31, 1901; Albert, born December 4, 1903; Eddie, born November 17, 1905; and Russell, born September 26, 1907.

HANS STOLTENBERG (1894) has, with the exception of one year, been a farmer and resident of Kanaranzi township since casting his fortune in America.

Hans is the son of Peter and Grace (Stelck) Stoltenberg and was born in the province of Holstein, Germany, August 23, 1847. He attended the schools of his native country, assisted on his father's farm, and for many years engaged in agricultural pursuits for himself. On December 12, 1872, he was united in marriage to Anna Wiese. To them have been born the following four children: William, on November 27, 1875; Henry, on June 24, 1886; Frank, on June 17, 1889; and Herbert, on July 18, 1893.

Heeding the beckon to the new world, in 1893 Mr. Stoltenberg with his family immigrated to America. The first year was spent near Estherville, Iowa, but the following spring they came to Rock county. The southeast quarter of section 34, Kanaranzi township, was bought, and that has since been the family home. Mr. Stoltenberg belongs to the German Lutheran church.

DANIEL B. JONES (1890), of Luverne, was for sixteen years engaged in the dray and transfer business in that city. He is a native Canadian and was born in Peterborough county, Ontario, January 4, 1859. At the age of twelve years he moved with his parents to Uncle Sam's territory, the family locating in Lapeer county, Michigan. He resided on the home farm in that county for six years; then a removal was made to Sanilac county, of the same state.

On attaining his majority Daniel severed home ties and went to Hand county, South Dakota, where he homesteaded a quarter section and later filed on a tree claim and pre-empted other land, and to this amount added another self section by purchase. Mr. Jones disposed of his real estate interests in Hand county in 1909. That was his home until 1890, the year he made settlement in Luverne, where three years later he commenced a successful business career. Associating himself with Frank Langhorn, the drayage and transfer firm of Langhorn & Jones was launched. Several years later this partnership was dissolved, Joseph Schaeffer succeeding to the interest of Mr. Langhorn, and he later being succeeded by

H. W. Matthews. Matthews & Jones conducted the enterprise until October, 1909, when our subject sold out to his partner and retired from business.

Mr. Jones is the owner and manager of two of the best breeding horses in the county, "St. Gothardt," a Belgian draft; and "Major," a thoroughbred Hamiltonian. He also owns the jack "Joker." Mr. Jones owns considerable town property and has a farm in Brule county, South Dakota. He holds membership in the Knights of Pythias, Modern Woodmen, Royal Neighbors, United Workmen and Degree of Honor lodges.

The subject of this biography was married in Hand county, South Dakota, on December 12, 1889, to Carrie Yada, a native of Wisconsin. The following three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Jones: Susan (Mrs. Howard Young), of North Yakima, Washington; Jay R., of North Yakima; and Harry.

FRANK MOON (1910) is a Denver township farmer and stock raiser of comparatively recent settlement. He rents and has farmed the north half of section 27 since the spring of 1910 and makes a specialty of breeding high grade cattle and Poland China hogs. Mr. Moon is a native of Piatt county, Illinois, and was born July 26, 1871, to George and Ellen (Nelson) Moon. The grandfather of our subject, a blacksmith by trade, came from Germany. George Moon was born in Harding county, Pennsylvania, was a farmer by occupation, and died at Whiting, Iowa, April 3, 1908. Ellen (Nelson) Moon, a native of West Virginia, came from old American stock, and until her death resided with her son Frank. She died November 8, 1910.

Frank was reared on a farm, and after completing his education in the village school at Atwood, Illinois, he returned to assist his father on the home farm. In the spring of 1894 the family moved to Monona county, Iowa, which was his home until making settlement in Rock county. He commenced farming for himself in Monona county in 1896, and has been successful in all his ventures. On October 6, 1910, Mr. Moon purchased the northeast quarter of section 10, Magnolia township, and in the

spring of 1912 he will move to his own farm. Mr. Moon holds membership in three Hardwick lodges, the I. O. O. F., M. W. A. and Royal Neighbors.

At Whiting, Iowa, Frank Moon was married to May Bowers, a native of the town of her marriage and a daughter of D. W. and Almira Bowers, both of whom are living. Mrs. Moon was born on August 11, 1875. To these parents have been born the following named children: Sanford David, born in 1896; Raymond Charles, born in 1897; Millard George, born in 1900; Walter Ellsworth, born in 1902; Ralph Frank, born in 1905, Edna Ruth, born in 1908; and Irene, born in 1911.

CHESTER W. SHERIFF (1907) is the manager of one of Luverne's widely known manufacturing plants, the Luverne Pressed Brick company. He is a man in every way qualified for such a position, both from years of experience as a practical brick maker and as an organizer and developer of such industries. He located in Luverne in 1907 and in company with R. B. Hinkly formed the Luverne Brick & Tile company. He superintended the construction of the extensive plant and as secretary and manager of the company assumed the active supervision of the manufactory until February, 1910, when he sold his interest and retired from the company. Since that date he has held his present position.

James R. and Sarah (Chapman) Sheriff, the parents of our subject, the former a native of New York and the latter of Pennsylvania, were pioneer settlers of Faribault county, Minnesota, where Chester was born June 30, 1870. Five other children, all of whom are living, were born to this union. Their names are Etha, Simeon, John, Netta and Ida. Mr. and Mrs. James R. Sheriff are now residents of Livermore, Iowa.

The family moved from Minnesota to Wright county, Iowa, when Chester was a seven year old boy. He assisted with the work of the home farm until nineteen years of age, when he went to the town of Goldfield, Iowa, where he commenced his career as a brick maker. After a short period of service he was promoted to the management of the brick yard at that place, a position he held nine years. He then moved

to Livermore, Iowa, and there was instrumental in the organization of a company for the manufacture of drainage tile. Of this plant he was a principal owner and manager until disposing of his interests in 1906, the year previous to locating in Laverne. For five years Mr. Sheriff served the town of Livermore as its mayor. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen and Odd Fellows orders.

At Goldfield, Iowa, September 17, 1889, our subject was married to Lilly H. Hawkins, a native of Wisconsin. Five children have been born to these parents: Helen H., James, Chester, Gertrude and Richard.

THEODORE C. REMME (1883), a well known farmer of Battle Plain township, is a native son of Rock county. He was born August 8, 1883, on the southeast quarter of section 26, Battle Plain township, land homesteaded by his father, Chris N. Remme, thirty-five years ago. Chris N. Remme was born in northern Norway in 1851, and twenty-two years later immigrated to the new world. The first three years in this country were spent in Winneshiek county, Iowa, and Goodhue county, Minnesota, whence he came to Rock county in 1876. He was one of the very earliest of Battle Plain township's settlers and suffered countless adversities—grasshoppers, blizzards and prairie fires—incident to those trying times, and today he ranks among the foremost of his community. Chris N. Remme married Anne Holien, and to them have been born twelve children, of whom Theodore C. of this review is the fifth son.

Theodore supplemented the early education he received in the district schools with a course in the South Dakota state agricultural college, at Brookings. He assisted with the management of the home farm until 1907, when he commenced farming on his own account in Vienna township. In the spring of 1910 he rented and moved to his present place, the southwest quarter of section 34, Battle Plain township.

Our subject was united in marriage at Sioux Falls, South Dakota, on June 10, 1905, to Ida Mork, a native of Minnehaha county, South Dakota. Mr. and Mrs. Remme have three children, named as follows: Harold,

born December 28, 1906; Ila, born May 1, 1908; and Lillian, born March 17, 1910.

ANDREW HELLING (1900), of Rose Dell township, is a native Norwegian and was born in the province of Hollingdal May 16, 1872. He is the son of Ole and Aagodt (Mykeng) Helling, who owned a small farm, upon which our subject was reared and grew to manhood.

Arriving at his majority, Andrew enlisted in the standing army of Norway and served for two years. He came to America alone in 1900 and journeyed direct to Rock county. He was employed at farm labor for three years, then rented land and commenced farming on his own account. He has rented and lived on his present place, the east half of the southeast quarter of section 24, since 1908. He was about thirty-five head of cattle, eight horses, and raises some hogs. With his family Mr. Helling is a member of the United Norwegian Lutheran church.

At Kenneth, on May 30, 1902, our subject was married to Mary E. Remme, the daughter of Ever and Marit Remme, who reside near Kenneth. They came to this country from Norway in 1904. Mrs. Helling was born in Valdres, Norway, March 4, 1882, and has lived in the United States since 1901. Mr. and Mrs. Helling have three children: Mabel A., born April 8, 1904; Anna M., born April 7, 1906; and Emmet E., born December 7, 1908.

JOHN NELSON, JR. (1877) is the son of those old and highly respected Martin township pioneers, John and Annie (Christianson) Nelson, whose early wedded life was passed amid the stirring scenes of an eventful epoch. They were the sharers with other fearless precursors in the hardships incident to the primitive days of a country, which then but faintly gave evidence of a future prosperity. Mr. Nelson came to the county in 1872.

On his father's old homestead, and at a time when it yet retained much of its original crudeness, on September 6, 1877, the namesake of the pioneer, John Nelson, Jr., of this biography, was born. After receiving all the education that could be afforded

by the schools in the immediate vicinity, he was for two years a student in Augsburg seminary, Minneapolis. He then returned to the home farm and assisted in its conduct until 1904, when Mr. Nelson rented the west half of section 24 from his father and has since made that his home. He is a member of Trinity church at Hills.

In the township of his birth, in March, 1904, our subject was united in marriage to Christina Moe, who was born January 21, 1880, the daughter of Christ and Andrine (Skyberg) Moe. The former parent has been deceased for some time; the mother resides with her daughter. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are the parents of three daughters and one son, named as follows: Margie, born July 30, 1905; Joseph C., born December 15, 1906; Olivia C., born July 15, 1907; and Agnes C., born December 30, 1908.

LIZZIE (KNIGHT) PERCIVAL (1876) with her family is a Martin township resident of thirty-five years standing. A native of Houston county, Minnesota, she was born March 26, 1858, the daughter of Anthony and Elizabeth (Babst) Knight, both natives of Germany. She was married in Waseca county, Minnesota, on March 1, 1876, to Jerome W. Percival, who the same year brought his bride to Rock county and homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 1, range 47, Martin township. That was his home to the time of his death, which occurred September 2, 1907. Since that time Mrs. Percival, with the aid of her sons, has continued to conduct the old home place.

Six children, four sons and two daughters, were born to Mr. and Mrs. Percival. The eldest son, Homer, born September 22, 1880, died September 24, 1882. The names of the other children follow: Cora A., born February 9, 1878; Ida, born February 24, 1884; Wesley, born October 17, 1888; Orr, born January 28, 1890; and Frederick, born May 28, 1893.

JOHN R. MAXEDON (1895), formerly of Luverne, is a native of Moultrie county, Illinois, and was born April 24, 1862. His father, William Maxedon, a native of Indiana and of Scotch-Irish descent, married Adaline Mull, also a Hoosier, who came

from Pennsylvania German stock. The mother of John Maxedon died when he was in his sixth year and his father passed away a few years later. There were nine children in the family, only two of whom are now living, the subject of this sketch and a sister, Adaline (Mrs. Isadore Temperman), of Louisville, Kentucky.

John lived in his home county until 1895. For seven years he was employed in a brick and tile factory, then became a bridge carpenter on the railroad, an occupation he followed for about five years. For a short period he worked as a fireman on the Michigan Central railroad on a run between Michigan City, Indiana, and Chicago. In 1895 Mr. Maxedon became a resident of Luverne. For the first seven years after locating there he was engaged in threshing and then established the Luverne steam laundry, which he conducted until early in 1910, when he disposed of the business to Herbert C. Tibbetts. The plant as equipped with up-to-date appliances and modern machinery at a cost of \$5000 by Mr. Maxedon is now one of the most complete in southern Minnesota and enjoys a wide patronage.

Our subject was married in Luverne on January 26, 1895, to Ruth Bailey, who was born January 3, 1871, in Missouri. She is the daughter of Joseph H. and Katherine (Strong) Bailey, natives of New York state and Switzerland, respectively. They have an adopted son, Arthur, who was born February 2, 1900. Mr. Maxedon and family are members of the Baptist church.

WILMER T. MURRAY (1884) is a valued resident of Hardwick, and to a greater extent than any other citizen the safety and protection of life and property in the thriving Rock county village is entrusted to his hands, inasmuch as in his official capacity Mr. Murray is the marshal, the chief of the fire department and superintendent of the water works system. He has been a resident of the county for all except the first two years of his life. Born at Humboldt, Iowa, April 3, 1882, he is the second son of Andrew and Mary (Key) Murray, the former a native of Canada and the mother of England. They settled in Iowa at an early date and came to Rock county in 1884. Be-

sides Wilmer, they were the parents of four other sons: James E., Jesse (deceased), Albert K. and Floyd.

Wilmer's father was a butcher and located in Luverne. Since a boy of eight years our subject has been hustling for himself. While attending the public schools he took care of himself to a great extent by blacking shoes. Leaving school at the age of thirteen, he worked for a year on a farm and then entered the employ of Kennedy Bros., at Hardwick, remaining with them until June, 1899. The next few years were spent in agricultural pursuits. Then for a time he managed the pool hall of Fred Paus-tian, worked on the section, worked as second man for the Davenport Grain company, and at various other occupations until 1905, when he was appointed village marshal, a position he has held continuously since. In September, 1909, he was made the fire chief and superintendent of the pumping station. He also devotes some time to barbering, having recently purchased the shop at Hardwick.

Mr. Murray was married in Luverne on December 23, 1904, to Clara Peterson. Mrs. Murray was born August 26, 1884 in the old sod shanty on her mother's (Johanna Peterson) claim, the first structure erected on the present site of the village of Hardwick. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Murray: Floyd, on March 29, 1906; Margaret, on June 9, 1908; Bernice, on May 1, 1910.

FERDINAND H. MOELLER (1901), who ranks as one of the successful and progressive agriculturists of the township of Kanaranzi, is a native of Holstein, Germany, where he was born the sixth of January, 1861. His parents, John and Christina (Behrman) Moeller, are still living in the fatherland at good old ages.

Ferdinand attended the German public schools until attaining the age of fifteen. Then he learned the shoemaker's trade and followed that line of work five years. His immigration to America took place in 1881. Going to Davenport, Iowa, he made his home in that vicinity for twenty years. During the first seven of those years he worked out on different farms, and during the balance of the time he farmed rented land. His

residence in Rock county dates from 1901. He owns the east half of the northwest quarter of section 14 and the west half of the northwest quarter of section 13 and today has one of the finest improved farms in Kanaranzi township. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Telephone company and the Farmers Elevator company of Kanaranzi. He is treasurer of school district No. 62.

On September 13, 1889, at Davenport, Mr. Moeller was married to Helena Kuentzel, whose parents both died in Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Moeller are the parents of the following six children: Louis J., born August 5, 1890; Emil H., born August 12, 1892; Alvina C., born November 22, 1895; Emmy A., born June 12, 1899; Walter A., born October 27, 1901; and Hilda A., born March 13, 1903.

MARION WYNN (1902), of Denver township, takes his given name from the town of his birth, Marion, Ohio. His nativity occurred January 3, 1878. Both his parents, Joseph Wynn and Angeline (Thomas) Wynn, were also natives of Ohio. The father still resides in the Buckeye state and is a farmer at Mt. Victory. The mother of our subject died at Castalia, Ohio, October 14, 1886. The paternal grandparents of Mr. Wynn were natives of Wales and Ireland, while the grandfather on his mother's side was born in the United States of German descent and his grandmother was of English birth.

Until he was fifteen years of age Marion Wynn lived on the farm of his patents near Marion and attended the district schools. He left home in 1893, accompanying a cousin who had been visiting in Ohio, to Woodbine, Iowa, where relatives resided. He was a student for one year in the Woodbine high school, then worked at farm labor until 1895. He left that locality to go to Glen-coe, Iowa, where he remained until 1902, and was for the most part engaged in farming. He came to Rock county in 1902 and for three years was employed alternately on a bus line in Luverne and at farm work. In 1905 Mr. Wynn headed west. For nine months he worked in Seattle, Washington, and in British Columbia. The winter of 1906-07 was spent in Kalispell, Montana, and from there our subject went to Stanley

county, South Dakota, where he homesteaded land and lived from August 3, 1907, to May 25, 1909. Having proved up on the claim, he returned to Rock county, managed the Palmer company's elevator at Warner during the 1909 season, and then in November located on the Denver township farm he has since rented and worked, located on section 22.

At Luverne, on December 2, 1908, Marion Wynn was joined in wedlock to Mae Brewer, who was born at Darlington, Wisconsin, January 25, 1882. One daughter, Alice, was born to these parents, on March 24, 1910. Mr. Wynn holds membership in the Modern Woodman lodge of Hardwick.

CHARLEY C. LOWE (1909) was until recently the editor and proprietor of the Luverne Journal, which developed under his management from a paper of little standing to an influential factor in the affairs of Rock county. Mr. Lowe sold the Journal in the fall of 1910 and now conducts a paper at LaMoure, North Dakota.

Mr. Lowe is a native of Manchester, Iowa, and was born July 16, 1870. When an infant he accompanied his parents to Vermilion, South Dakota, lived there two years, in Yankton two years, and then moved to Brule county, South Dakota, where he lived until nineteen years of age. Until he was fourteen years old Charley Lowe received absolutely no schooling and thereafter he received only a common school training. While living in Brule county he entered his father's printing office and learned the printer's trade, which he has ever since followed.

At the age of nineteen Mr. Lowe moved to Huron, worked in his father's printing office there six months, and then went to Mitchell, South Dakota, where he entered what was then known as the Wesleyan university. Later he moved to Alexandria, where he took the management of the Journal. A little later he bought the lease to the plant and conducted the paper to his own account two years. Disposing of his lease to the Journal, Mr. Lowe bought a half interest in the Union Labor Gazette and was connected with that paper seven months. We next find our subject in the city of Salem, South Dakota, where for

nine years he was the editor and proprietor of the Pioneer-Register. He sold out at Salem and bought the Times at Watertown, which he conducted two years. He then bought the Independent at Henry, South Dakota, was at the head of that journal two years, and then, in February, 1909, located in Luverne and bought the Luverne Journal, which he conducted until the fall of 1910, bringing that publication up to a high standard. Mr. Lowe also owned the Hardwick Star, which he established in 1909.

The parents of our subject are John R. and Amelia M. (Stimson) Lowe, natives of Ohio and Michigan, respectively. They were married in Michigan and thereafter lived, respectively, in Huron county, Ohio; Cairo, Illinois; Delaware county, Iowa; Waterloo, Iowa; and in several different towns in South Dakota. During his residence in the first places named Mr. Lowe was engaged in farming; in Waterloo he was engaged in the sewing machine business; in South Dakota he was engaged in newspaper work and in the mercantile business. He took a homestead claim in Brule county and platted the town of Bijou Hills on his farm. He was quite prominent in politics, and when the populist party was in the ascendancy in South Dakota he was nominated by that party for state auditor. He now resides at Centuria, Wisconsin, engaged in lecture work from the temperance platform and in organizing co-operative stores. There are four children in the family: John G., Charley C., Greta A., Arnold and Alpha H.

The subject of this biography was married in Mitchell, South Dakota, April 5 1893, to Fulvia D. Palmer. She is the daughter of Charles H. and Maud (Raymond) Palmer and was born at Milton Junction, Wisconsin, October 27, 1874. Three children have been born to this union, as follows: Susie L., born April 15, 1894; Leta G., born November 19, 1895, Olga L., born October 21, 1904.

Mr. Lowe holds membership in the A. F. & A. M., K. P., B. P. O. E. and M. W. A. lodges.

HOLDEN TVEDT (1887) has known no other home but Rock county. He is the son of Halsten and Segerud (Maage) Tvedt and was born on his father's Springwater

township farm January 26, 1887. Both parents were natives of Norway. Halsten Tvedt died November 25, 1909; his wife, the mother of our subject, still enjoys life as a resident of Springwater.

Holden attended the district schools of his native precinct and until 1909 assisted his father in the management of the home farm. In that year he established himself as an independent farmer and has since farmed the southeast quarter of section 23, range 47, Springwater. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

The marriage of Holden Tvedt to Ella Brower was solemnized on Mr. Tvedt's birthday, January 26, 1910, in Luverne. Mrs. Tvedt is the second in a family of one son and two daughters, whose parents are Charles and Hilda Brower, who moved to Springwater township from Sunbury, Iowa, in 1907.

JOHN P. COFFEY (1899) has for twelve years been a well-known citizen of Luverne, where he is extensively engaged in the wholesale and retail grain, coal, flour and feed business. He owns and operates the Luverne flour mill and from his headquarters in the county seat he conducts a line of seven elevators, located on the Omaha and Rock Island railroads in this territory.

A self-made man in every particular, Mr. Coffey's successful career is an example of what a poor orphan boy may accomplish by perseverance, honesty and determined zeal. His parents, Patrick and Hannah (Cotter) Coffey, both natives of Ireland, came to this country early in life, were married and located in the state of New York. In the city of Poughkeepsie, Dutchess county, our subject was born December 15, 1864. The family moved west in 1877 after the death of Hannah (Cotter) Coffey, which occurred during the month of May of that year. In December of the same year, while located in Minnesota, John was left a double orphan by the decease of his father. He was only twelve years of age at the time of this misfortune.

Friendless and alone in the world, our subject commenced the struggle for existence as a newsboy on the streets of St. Paul. Then it was that kindly Fate in the person of a Catholic priest came to minister

to him. The good father had become interested in the orphan, had learned of the circumstances in the case, and through his influence John was admitted to the Catholic Training school for boys, an institution which later developed into St. Thomas college, located at Merriam Park. The opportunity was eagerly accepted by the homeless boy and he remained in the school for two years, receiving priceless benefits from the instructions and the influences offered by the surroundings.

On leaving the St. Paul institution young Coffey went to Fillmore county, in the southeastern part of the state, where he in earnest commenced to shape his destiny. In summers he worked at farm labor and by sacrifice was enabled to attend the district schools during the winter months. For two years he taught in the schools of Fillmore county, and then moved to Madison, South Dakota, where he acquired his first experience in the grain business. For four years he was employed in various capacities in the elevators of that city, and there, in 1889, he established himself as a hardware merchant. He so continued for five years, then was similarly engaged until 1896 in the city of Freeport, Illinois. He moved to Whitewater, Wisconsin, which was his home prior to establishing his present residence and extensive business in Luverne. Mr. Coffey is a director of the Rock County Bank and is a member of the order of the Knights of Columbus.

Our subject is a man of family. He was married at Madison, South Dakota, on April 27, 1892, to Mary Carr, of Sparta, Wisconsin. Mrs. Coffey died October 30, 1905. To this union two sons and three daughters were born: Bernard, a student at St. Thomas college; Bernice, Margaret, John P., Jr., and Ellen. On September 18, 1907, Mr. Coffey was married to Mildred Ryan, a native of Luverne and a daughter of two of the county's pioneer settlers, Martin and Ellen Ryan. Mr. and Mrs. Coffey have two children, Catherine and Mildred.

HERMAN FITZER (1903) has lived on his present farm, the northwest quarter of section 15, Luverne township, since 1903. He engages extensively in buying, breeding and shipping fine stock and also does a



RESIDENCE AND MILL OF J. P. COFFEY, LUVERNE



FARM HOME OF HERMAN FITZER, NEAR LUVERNE

considerable business in the real estate line. He is the president of the Mutual Fire Insurance company of Beaver Creek.

Our subject is a native of Scott county, Iowa, where he was born July 30, 1866. His parents, Christian and Magdalena (Horn) Fitzer, are natives of Germany and were married there. Landing in the United States in 1857, they went direct to Davenport, Iowa. Soon after, the father bought land in Cedar county, the same state, and it was on the farm there that Herman spent his youth and received an education in the district schools. He left home at the age of twenty-two, beginning in the same business in which he is now engaged, that of farming and dealing in stock.

Mr. Fitzer was married while a resident of Cedar county, on February 7, 1894, to Matie Arp, the daughter of Peter and Lena Arp, both of whom are natives of Germany. Mrs. Fitzer's birth occurred April 2, 1870. To them four children have been born.

AANEN T. AANENSON (1888) has passed his whole life within the borders of Rock county. He was born on his father's farm in Luverne township on the twentieth of March, 1888. He is the son of Thor and Johanna (Holand) Aanenson, who came from their native land of Norway to America in 1884. Aanen was educated in the district schools and assisted his father in the conduct of the home farm, renting some little land besides. In the spring of 1910 he commenced farming for himself on his present location, the northeast quarter of section 14, range 47, Beaver Creek township.

Mr. Aanenson was married in Beaver Creek township January 15, 1910, to Tilda E. Tokheim. Mrs. Aanenson was born October 16, 1890, and is the daughter of Tosten and Engeborg (Wastun) Tokheim, of Minnehaha county, South Dakota.

MARION J. ELLSWORTH (1903), of Magnolia, is the son of the late John A. and Laura (Fish) Ellsworth, pioneers of southwestern Minnesota. John A. Ellsworth was born in Utica, New York, October 14, 1828, and when a young man moved to Saranac, Ionia county, Michigan, where

he lived until 1865, engaged in farming, school teaching and in the mercantile business. He became a resident of Minnesota in the year mentioned and until 1872 resided in Blue Earth county. He then went to Nobles county and was the first person to file a soldier's homestead claim in Westside township, selecting as his allotment the northeast quarter of section 18. At that time there were only two houses on the road between Luverne and Worthington. Mr. Ellsworth retired from active work on the farm in 1896 and moved to Adrian, where his death occurred July 17, 1901. Laura Ellsworth, the mother of our subject, is a native of Whitehall, New York, and still resides at Adrian at the age of seventy-six.

During the residence of the family in Saranac, Michigan, Marion J. Ellsworth was born September 26, 1862. Three years later he moved with his parents to Blue Earth county, Minnesota, and then in May, 1872, to Nobles county. He attended the district schools of Westside township and lived on the old homestead of his father until twenty years of age. Then he set his eyes toward the west. He pre-empted land in South Dakota, remained there five years, and then went to the state of Washington. In 1889 Marion returned to Nobles county and farmed for the next three years. When the Sisseton Indian reservation in South Dakota was opened for settlement on April 15, 1892, he was fortunate to secure his pick of the land and on the claim he remained for ten years. In 1903 he located in Magnolia, which has since been his home and where he is engaged in the butcher and retail meat business.

At the call for volunteers on the declaration of war with Spain, Marion Ellsworth enlisted at Browns Valley, Minnesota, on July 2, 1898, in company E, Fifteenth Minnesota regiment. His company was stationed at Fort Snelling, Camp Meade, Pennsylvania, and at Augusta, Georgia, being mustered out at the latter place in March, 1899.

Mr. Ellsworth was married at Adrian February 4, 1891, to Katherine McGee, a native of Illinois and a daughter of William and Katherine McGee, now residents of Magnolia. To these parents have been born the following three children: Kather-

ine L., born November 25, 1891; William, born May 2, 1894; and Ruth, born August 4, 1896.

VICTOR C. LINNELL (1885), a liveryman of Luverne, was born in Geneseo, Henry county, Illinois, January 25, 1868. He is the son of Charles R. and Mary I. (Lenhart) Linnell, natives of New York and Ohio, respectively. Charles R. Linnell located in Henry county, Illinois, in the early forties, making the trip from his native state to that point in true pioneer style, by means of an ox cart. In that county he was married and continued to live until moving to Rock county in 1885. He bought land in Clinton township, where he died in 1889 at the age of sixty years. His wife died four years later and at the time was in her forty-sixth year. Victor, who was the second child in the family, had four brothers: Charles R., Philip R. (deceased), Henry E. and Chester H.

Victor C. Linnell of this biography was seventeen years of age when he left Illinois and removed with his parents to Rock county. After the death of the father, the four sons of Charles R. Linnell conducted the home farm on section 10, Clinton township, until 1894. That year Victor and his brother Chester moved on a farm which they had bought from their father on section 3 in the same township and lived there until 1904. For the next five years he farmed the southeast quarter of section 14, land which he still owns.

For two years, commencing in 1896, Mr. Linnell was interested with his brother in the City livery barn of Luverne. On retiring from the farm in 1909 he moved to Luverne and bought from Jack McGee the livery opposite the Central hotel and later bought a half interest in the Manitou livery from James Roberts. These gentlemen, under the firm name of Roberts & Linnell, now control the two leading barns in Luverne. They also operate a bus and transfer line and engage extensively in the buying and shipping of horses to the eastern markets. While a resident of Clinton township Mr. Linnell was a member of the township board for one year and was road overseer for five years. He is a member of the M. W. A. lodge.

Our subject was married in Guthrie county, Iowa, on February 11, 1903, to Wilda Fowler, a native of that county, born February 3, 1874. Mr. and Mrs. Linnell are the parents of the following named five children: Bernice, Buehl, Gladys M., Wayne and Cora L.

NICK KUNDEL (1891), a Springwater township farmer, is the fourth in a family of nine children, five sons and four daughters, who were born to John and Annie (Mewas) Kundel. In St. Michaelsdonn, Germany, on the twelfth day of January, 1862, occurred the birth of our subject.

When Nick was a lad twelve years of age he bade farewell to his native land and with his parents crossed the great divide to make settlement in the new world. The family settled in Davenport, Iowa, where he finished his schooling and resided for seventeen years. In 1891 Mr. Kundel established himself in Rock county. He moved to the farm he had bought the preceding fall, the southeast quarter of section 26, range 47, which has ever since been his home. For one year he served as a road overseer.

WILLARD A. JONES (1893) is engaged in the plumbing and heating business in Luverne. He is the son of Daniel and Susan (Hubbel) Jones, both deceased, and was born in Peterbur county, Canada, August 25, 1861.

When a child of five years Mr. Jones accompanied his parents in their removal to the states, the family locating in Imlay City, Lapeer county, Michigan. There our subject remained until 1876, when the family moved to Marlette, Sanilac county, Michigan. In his young manhood Mr. Jones was variously employed, much of the time as an engineer in cities of his home state. In March, 1893, he moved to Chicago, worked at his trade until June, and then took up his residence in Luverne.

For a number of years Mr. Jones was employed as an engineer with a threshing crew and working on a dray line. After working some time for the plumbers, John Frink and Greene & Hafsos, in 1901 he set up in business for himself, opening a shop

of Freeman avenue, where he is doing a thriving business. When a young man he acquired considerable knowledge of pipe work, heating and plumbing in the cities of Detroit, Port Huron and Saginaw, Michigan, and London, Canada. He is also a licensed electrician and does jobbing and sewer work.

In Luverne, on December 2, 1895, Mr. Jones was united in marriage to Amelia (Yada) Jones, who was born August 6, 1875, in Sauk City, Sauk county, Wisconsin. One son, Frankie Donald, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Jones on May 31, 1897,

OSCAR M. THOMPSON (1883) farms the entire west half of section 19, Martin township. He is a native of Rock county, the son of Gilbert and Martha Thompson, now residents of Hills, and was born September 21, 1883. After securing a district school education, he commenced doing the work of a man on his father's farm. In 1907 Oscar went to Lyman county, South Dakota, where he filed claim to a homestead and remained one year. On returning home, together with his brother, he rented the west half of section 19 from his father, which they worked in company until the spring of 1910, since which time our subject has alone superintended the cultivation of the 320 acres in question.

At Luverne, on July 30, 1908, Oscar M. Thompson was united in marriage to Julia Severson, the daughter of Soren Severson, of Martin township. Mrs. Thompson was born on the thirtieth of May, 1889.

JOHN I. CRANGLE (1893) is the manager of the Farmers Elevator company at Steen. It was in 1907 that this company came into being, a mutual organization of farmers taking over the holdings of a grain company and maintaining an elevator at that point. In July, 1909, Mr. Crangle was invited to assume the management of the business, and he has since successfully conducted it. The company also buys and ships stock.

In Lasalle county, Illinois, on December 6, 1865, our subject first saw the light of day. His father was Patrick Crangle, a native of county Down, Ireland, where he

was born in 1830. When a lad of eleven years, he came to the United States. He engaged in the occupation of farming and settled in Lasalle county, Illinois, which was his home to the time of his death, December 28, 1903. The mother, Mary (Riley) Crangle, was born in county Mead, Ireland, in 1837 and came to this country nine years later. She still lives in the Illinois home.

The youth and early manhood of John Crangle was spent in Lasalle county, Illinois. He attended the district schools of his home county, supplementing his education with courses in the Streator high school and the Dixon Business college at Dixon, Illinois. He taught for several winters after leaving school and then engaged in farming. He farmed for two years in Lasalle county before coming to Minnesota.

Mr. Crangle came to Rock county in 1893 and bought the northwest quarter of section 20, Clinton township, which was his residence for eleven years. He left the farm in the fall of 1905 and moved to the village of Steen. For one year he was in the employ of the Edmonds Lumber company, and later was a clerk in the general store of A. G. Tangeman. He engaged in other occupations for a time, until entering upon the duties of his present position. Mr. Crangle has served school district number fourteen for four years as its treasurer, and is also at the present time completing his third year as the treasurer of Clinton township. He owns his residence in Steen and is the possessor of 240 acres of Clinton township's fertile soil.

Mr. Crangle was married in September, 1897, at Luverne, to Delia Burns, a native of Steele county, Minnesota. To this union two children have been born, John Leonard, born January 2, 1909, and James, born in 1910. Mr. Crangle holds membership in the M. W. A. lodge of Steen.

JOHN MOERKE (1904), who farms the north half of section 24, Kanaranzi township, points to Holland as the country of his birth, which occurred January 4, 1886. He is the son of John and Sebina (Lukens) Moerke. The former parent passed away from this life in 1903 at George,

Iowa, while the mother is still living and makes her home with John in Kanaranzi.

The land of dykes was our subject's home for the first fourteen years of his life, and there he secured a primary education. He came to America with his parents in 1900, the family first locating in Illinois. A year later they moved to Selby, South Dakota, where a residence of two years was completed. Near George, Iowa, where occurred his father's decease, John Moerke worked as a farm laborer for a year, and in 1904 his activities in Rock county commenced. He rented the land previously described and has been engaged in farming the extensive tract up to the present date. Mr. Moerke holds membership in the German Lutheran church.

JOHN F. KROHN (1908), previous to establishing his present residence in Hardwick in the fall of 1910, was a Denver township farmer. Of that precinct he owns the northeast, the northwest and the southeast quarters of section 5. A native of Pommern, Germany, he was born October 10, 1862. His parents, Fred and Dorothy (Rossow) Krohn, have long been residents of Benton county, Iowa, where the former is a prosperous farmer.

John passed the first nineteen years of his life in the land of his birth. He was reared and educated in the town of Loitz, where at the age of fifteen he commenced working at the wagon-maker's trade, which he followed four years. In the fall of 1881 he crossed the Atlantic with his parents and settled with them in Benton county, Iowa, destined to be his home for twenty-seven years. He was employed for a long period in railroad construction work, then bought 240 acres of land and became a farmer. He sold his farm lands in 1906 and for the next two years was identified with the Van Horn Savings Bank, in the capacity of vice president and assistant cashier. In 1908 he invested in his present Rock county real estate and moved thereon. Mr. Krohn holds membership in the Odd Fellows and Modern Woodmen lodges of Hardwick.

Our subject was married at Vinton, Iowa, on June 7, 1882, to Minnie Lorenz, also a native of Pommern, Germany. She was

born September 29, 1858, and came to the United States in 1881. The following eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Krohn: Emma, born September 4, 1883; William, born May 15, 1885; Ella, born January 30, 1887; Harry, born September 27, 1888; Hugh, born August 19, 1890; Lorenz, born August 4, 1891; Hazel, born May 5, 1895; and Elton, born December 29, 1899.

JAMES E. ROBERTS (1884) is the senior member of the firm of Roberts & Linnell, proprietors of the Manitou livery and sale stables and the bus and transfer business. He has been a resident of Rock county since he was a lad of sixteen years and for the past five years has been engaged in business at the county seat.

Mr. Roberts was born in Henry county, Illinois, March 29, 1868, and is the youngest in a family of nine children whose parents were George and Sarah J. (Beers) Roberts, natives of Ohio and Pennsylvania, respectively. They were pioneer farmers in Illinois and in 1884 moved to Rock county, where they resided up to the time of their death.

Our subject was twelve years of age when he accompanied his parents to Schuyler county, Missouri. Four years later the family arrived in Rock county and located on a farm in Clinton township. For eight years James assisted with the work on the home farm; then he became the owner of a farm on section 12, of the same township, and set up in farming for himself. Five years ago he traded his farm for the Palace livery in Luverne and became a resident of that city. The Palace barn was shortly after destroyed by fire, but later the Manitou brick barn was erected on the same site. Two years ago V. C. Linnell became a partner of Mr. Roberts in the conduct of the business. Mr. Roberts is an extensive buyer and shipper of horses. While a resident of Clinton township he served as a member of the board of supervisors.

Mr. Roberts was married in Luverne on March 9, 1892, to Bertha M. Smith, a native of Iowa and the daughter of M. C. and Maria Smith. They have three children: Donald, Kenneth and Neil.

IVER KAMMERUD (1910), a Rose Dell township farmer of recent settlement, was born in the hamlet of Randsfjord Sta, province of Gran Hadeland, Norway, on the second of January, 1881. His father, Peter H. Kammerud, was a workman in a brick and tile factory up to the time of his immigration to the United States. The mother of our subject was Olena (Bjorn-dalen) Kammerud.

In 1895, at the age of fourteen, Iver accompanied his parents across the Atlantic and with them located at Blanchardville, Wisconsin, and there he was destined to remain thirteen years. For seven years of that period he was employed at farm labor, then did stone mason and carpenter contracting. For two months in 1908 Mr. Kammerud was employed at Artesian, South Dakota, returning to Wisconsin for the winter. He left that state to become a resident of Rock county. His home is on the northeast quarter of section 35, range 47, Rose Dell township.

The marriage of Iver Kammerud to Minnie Hanson was solemnized at Sherman, South Dakota, on November 25, 1909. The bride of that date is a daughter of Ole A. and Matilda (Christensen) Hanson, of Sherman, the former a native of Norway, the latter of Wisconsin. Mrs. Kammerud was born August 1, 1885. Mr. and Mrs. Kammerud are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

CARL E. CHRISTOPHERSON (1905) is the junior member of the firm of Nelson & Christopherson, blacksmiths and carriage makers of Hills. He is the son of Johan (deceased) and Christine Christopherson, who were the parents of two children, Inga and Carl. The mother is still a resident of Norway, which country is the birthplace of our subject. His nativity occurred in the city of Trondhjem January 19, 1870.

In the ancient Norwegian city of his birth Carl acquired a good school education and then learned the carriage maker's and machinist's trades. He followed his chosen line of work in the old country until 1888, the date of his immigration to the United States. He located at Sioux Falls, where he was employed at his trade until 1905, when he became a resident of

Hills. The same year, with August Nelson, he bought the blacksmith business of Ole Lund, which the two gentlemen have since conducted. Carl is unmarried. For a year and a half he was chief of the Hills fire department. He belongs to the M. W. A. lodge and to the Lutheran church.

August Nelson, of the firm of Nelson & Christopherson, is also a native of Norway, born in Trondhjem September 29, 1865. He followed the occupation of blacksmith in his native land until 1888, the year his career in America began. He resided at Sioux Falls until 1905, when he formed his present partnership with Carl Christopherson and became a resident of Hills. Mr. Nelson in 1891 was married to Mary Lee, of Sioux Falls. They are the parents of three children, named Malvin, Edna and Grant. He holds membership in the Modern Woodmen order and in the Norwegian Lutheran church.

SAM FOIGHT (1884) is the manager of the Hubbard & Palmer Grain company's interests at Luverne and also a dealer in ice. He was born in Geneseo, Illinois, October 2, 1876, and is the only son of Herman and Caroline (Kreps) Foight, natives of Germany and Illinois, respectively.

When in his eighth year Sam left his home in Illinois and went to Luverne to live with an uncle, Fred Kreps, with whom he remained for two years. For five years thereafter the young boy was employed at farm labor at Scottsville, Cloud county, Kansas. He worked for a year near his native town, Geneseo, and then returned to Luverne, which has since been his home. The first few years following he was employed in the wagon shop of his uncle, Elias Kreps, in a wagon shop and electric light plant at Rock Rapids, and on Rock county farms. He became a driver on an ice wagon for David Beers and continued in that occupation six years, until 1902, when he entered into partnership with Mr. Beers in the conduct of the business. Since the retirement of Mr. Beers in 1907, Mr. Foight has been the sole proprietor of the business. For a number of years past he has also managed the Hubbard & Palmer elevator. He is also one of the managers of the Luverne opera house, having leased

the play house for a term of years in partnership with Harry Mathews in September, 1910. He holds membership in the A. O. U. W., M. W. A., I. O. O. F. and D. of H. lodges.

Mr. Foight was married in Luverne in November, 1900, to Alice E. Beers, who was born in Henry county, Illinois, March 10, 1878, and is the daughter of David and Frances (Sands) Beers. David Beers died March 22, 1910. To this union have been born two children: Lawrence, born October 15, 1903, and Lloyd R., born October 7, 1906. Mr. Foight owns residence property in Luverne.

FRANCIS A. KUBITZ (1886) is the owner of one of Martin township's most thoroughly improved farms. It was in Germany on the first day of May, 1857, that he was born, the son of Carl and Anna (Reetz) Kubitz, both of whom are buried in the old country.

Francis came to America in 1883, his first home in the new country being Toledo, Ohio. He worked as a gardener in that city for two years; then after a year spent in Wisconsin, he came to Rock county, which was in the year 1886. He worked out on different farms during the next three years, then rented a place and set up in farming for himself. In 1892 he bought his present farm, the northwest quarter of section 2, and that has since been his home.

Mr. Kubitz is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge. He was married in Martin township on April 21, 1889, to Annie Lehmann, the daughter of Leopold and Josephine (Vogelsang) Lehmann. Her birth occurred December 11, 1861. They have four children: Arthur, born February 23, 1890; Josephine, born August 7, 1892; Helen, born February 13, 1894; Walter, born February 12, 1896.

A. G. TANGEMAN (1902), a progressive merchant of the town of Steen, is a native of Benton county, Iowa, where he was born August 28, 1864. His father, A. Tangeman, was a native of the Buckeye state, born December 25, 1838. As a boy of eight the father of our subject moved with his par-

ents from Ohio to Clayton county, Iowa, remaining there until reaching his majority. Going then to Benton county, in the same state, he resided there until 1871, his next move being to Allamakee county, which was his home for a good many years. He left Iowa for four years, locating at Lewiston, Michigan, but returning at the end of that time to his early home in Clayton county. There he died November 26, 1909. During his many years of active labor he was alternately engaged in farming and in the milling business. The mother of our subject, Henrietta (Myer) Tangeman, died in 1876 in Allamakee county, Iowa.

A. G. Tangeman of this biography lived in the county of his birth for the first seven years of his life. At that age he accompanied his parents in their removal to Allamakee county, where he resided for a good many years. He secured an education in the country schools, and up to the time of his coming of age he assisted his father on the farm and in the mill. At twenty-one his career in the mercantile business began. For five years thereafter he clerked in a store at Volney, in his home county, later accepting a similar position in the town of Postville.

His residence in Rock county dates from the year 1902. Locating in Steen that year, he bought the general store of W. E. Bauer, which continues to be under Mr. Tangeman's management and control. Since coming into possession of the business he has increased the stock of goods to about double the original size and has made many up-to-date improvements. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator company of Steen. During the summer of 1910, Mr. Tangeman erected a fine home in the village.

At Waukon, Iowa, on September 17, 1889, occurred the marriage of Mr. Tangeman to Mary Koontz, the daughter of Elias and Martha Koontz, both deceased. Mrs. Tangeman's native county is Freeborn, Minnesota, where she was born March 1, 1867. Five children have been born to these parents, as follows: Leo, born April 18, 1891; Clifford, born July 25, 1892; Ruby, born June 10, 1898; Earl, born May 27, 1901; and Dwight, born November 21, 1906. Mr. Tangeman is a member of the Metho-

dist church and of the A. O. U. W. lodge of Postville, Iowa, and the M. W. A. lodge of Steen.

THOMAS HANSEN (1894) is the senior member of the firm of Hansen & Hulett, Luverne, proprietors of the Independent Garage and Auto Repair shop. Germany is the land of his nativity and August 13, 1867, was the date of his birth. His parents were Hans and Dora Hansen, both of whom died in their native land. There are seven children in the family, of whom all except the subject of this biography and Dora Hansen live in the fatherland.

Thomas Hansen learned the blacksmith's trade at Dickens, Iowa, one year and on from 1883 to 1889. In the last named year he joined the German army and served three years. He worked at his trade a short time after leaving the army and in 1893 came to America. He worked at his trade at Dickens, Iowa, one year and on the first day of April, 1894, became a resident of the little village of Kanaranzi, Rock county. There he opened a blacksmith shop, which he conducted until October, 1907. He located in Luverne and for a time worked in the repair department of the Luverne Automobile company's plant. In October, 1909, in partnership with D. A. Hulett, he opened a garage and automobile repair shop and has since assisted in its management. The company is agent for the White steamers. Mr. Hansen owns a farm in Magnolia township and residence property in Luverne.

At Davenport, Iowa, on October 22, 1896, Mr. Hansen was united in marriage to Emma Boll. She is the daughter of D. Boll, deceased, and was born in Scott county, Iowa, February 5, 1872. Mr. and Mrs. Hansen have five children, named as follows: Lilly, Arnold, Leona, Elmer and Edna.

HENRY SCHELLHOUSE (1900), who is the owner and farmer of 240 acres of Martin township's productive soil, is a German by birth, his nativity occurring January 5, 1857, in the province of Hessen Kausel. His father, John Schellhouse, a large farmer in the old country, died when Henry was a

boy of fourteen, and his mother, Anna Elizabeth (Strube) Schellhouse, passed away three years before.

Until a young man of twenty-four, Henry Schellhouse's life was spent in the fatherland, and for most of that time he was engaged in agricultural pursuits. Coming to America in 1881, he lived for seven years in Benton county, Iowa. For the first two years he worked out, then rented land and farmed for himself. O'Brien county, Iowa, was the scene of his labors for the next eleven years. While there he invested in eighty acres of wild land, which he improved and farmed for a considerable length of time. His residence in Rock county dates from 1900. That year he bought his present farm, the southwest quarter of section 26, Martin township. His other property has been acquired since. He raises quite a bit of stock and engages to a great extent in dairying. In 1909 he was elected one of the directors of school district No. 40. He is a member of the Evangelical church of Steen.

Mr. Schellhouse was married January 7, 1885, in Benton county, Iowa, to Mary Tilcher, born in Germany, September 3, 1863. She came to this country with her parents when a child three years of age. Her family first located in Illinois but later moved to Benton county, Iowa. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Schellhouse: Edward, born October 14, 1886; Charles, born January 10, 1888; John born March 20, 1890; William, born September 4, 1892; Clara, born October 29, 1895; Harry, born June 22, 1898; Albert, born November 2, 1903.

ANDREW HAFSAAS (1890), of Rose Dell township, was born on a farm in Nor Fjord, Norway, the thirteenth of February, 1867. He is the son of Andrew and Anne (Hannebrekke) Hafsaas, both of whom lie buried in the land of the midnight sun.

Our subject received a common school education in the land of his birth, which he left in 1886 to cast his fortune in the new world. He resided for the first four years near Sioux Falls, South Dakota, where he hired out as an agricultural laborer. He then established his present residence in Rock county. He owned land for a

period, but since 1901 he has rented and worked the southeast quarter of section 2, range 47, Rose Dell township. Mr. Hafsaas is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

In Sioux Rapids, Iowa, on December 30, 1901, Andrew Hafsaas was united in marriage to Lena Jacobson. Mrs. Hafsaas is the daughter of Jacob and Martha Jacobson, natives of Norway.

MICHAEL CONWAY (1893), the manager of the grain business of the Kenneth Farmers Elevator company at Kenneth, was born in Livingston county, Illinois, July 17, 1870. He was next to the youngest in a family of ten children, seven of whom are living, and whose parents were Martin and Rose (Ruddy) Conway, both natives of the Emerald isle. The former came to the United States in 1847 and his wife followed two years later. They were located in Ohio and Illinois before coming to Rock county in 1893. They bought a section of land in Clinton township, which was known as the Euclare farm, and there the venerable couple lived until called by death, the father in April, 1907, at the age of eighty-six, and the mother in July of the same year, aged seventy-four years.

Michael passed the first twenty-two years of his life in Livingston county, Illinois. He assisted on the home place and then for two years farmed for himself. He located in Rock county the same year his parents did, in 1893. He farmed rented land near Steen for eight years, then entered the employ of the Peavey Elevator company, whom he represented at Sibley, Iowa, and later at Emerson, Nebraska. Our subject then for two years was a resident of Montana, being employed there in the smelters and as a fireman on the Great Northern, with headquarters at Havre and Anaconda. Returning to Rock county, he managed his father's farm for four years, then moved to Kenneth, where he bought a half interest in a livery barn. Later he was in charge of the E. A. Brown elevator at that point and later still took charge of the elevator at Luverne. In 1910 he returned to Kenneth to accept his present position.

Mr. Conway was married in Worthing-

ton, Minnesota, on January 8, 1908, to Winnie Tierney, a native of Rock county and a daughter of Thomas Tierney. One child, Monica Elaine, was born to this union June 16, 1909. Our subject is a member of the Modern Woodmen and Knights of Columbus orders, and of the Catholic church.

JAMES F. SNOOK (1885) is the senior member of the firm of Snook & Snook, who operate an up-to-date and popular restaurant and confectionery store in Luverne. Born in McLean county, Illinois, the tenth day of October, 1875, our subject was a lad of ten years when he accompanied his parents to Rock county, which has since been his home with the exception of a year spent in Nebraska. For ten years he lived on the home farm in Beaver Creek township and then began his residence in Luverne. For one year he was associated with William Britton in the management of a pool and billiard hall and then was sole proprietor of the same business for two years. For five years thereafter he was the owner and operator of a merry-go-round outfit and in 1906 he formed a partnership with his cousin, Joseph L. Snook, and engaged in his present line of business. Mr. Snook is a member of the Odd Fellows lodge of Luverne.

James is the son of Joseph L. and Sarah Snook, natives of the Buckeye state. They were early settlers of McLean county, Illinois, and came to Rock county in 1885. For the past fifteen years the family have resided in Luverne. Prior to that Mr. Snook was one of Beaver Creek township's leading farmers. Mr. and Mrs. Snook, Sr., are the parents of the following six children: Mary (Mrs. D. A. Hulett), of Luverne; George, of North Dakota; James F., Walter, Mabel and Ira, all of Luverne.

ENGEBRET OLSON (1882), of Martin township, first saw the light of day in Hallingdal, Norway, March 27, 1866. His parents were Ole and Mary (Bredakkene) Olson. Engebret was early thrown upon his own resources, at the tender age of eight commencing to work out in order to contribute to the family larder. He was 16 years of age when his career in America began.

He journeyed direct to Rock county, which has been his home for nearly thirty years. During the first year following his arrival, Mr. Olson herded cattle near Hardwick, living in a sod shanty the while. In 1886 he was married and established himself as a farmer of rented land. In 1907 he became the owner of the northwest quarter of section 6, upon which he is now building and upon which he expects to move. For a number of years past he has farmed and lived upon the northeast quarter of section 1, range 47.

The marriage of Engebret Olson to Mary J. Qualley was solemnized in Martin township in January, 1886. Mrs. Olson was born May 25, 1868, and died June 30, 1900. Five children were born to these parents, named as follows: Martin, born March 14, 1890; Ida, born January 13, 1892; Oscar, born November 11, 1894; Mabel, born November 5, 1895; Engebor, born March 18, 1898. Mr. Olson and family are members of the Synod Norwegian Lutheran church.

EDWARD PHILIP KORNMANN (1892), who farms the south half of section 13, Denver township, began his earthly career in the city of Hamburg, Germany, April 28, 1875. He is the son of Philipp and Katherine (VanBergen) Kornmann, the former of whom is also a resident of Denver township. The mother died at Sherman, South Dakota, in 1900. Edward was educated in the city schools of Hamburg, which was his home for the first sixteen years of his life. He was confirmed in 1889 and then commenced to work at the carpenter's trade.

With an uncle and aunt, a brother and two sisters, Edward Kornmann immigrated to America in June, 1891, and resided at Davenport, Iowa, until March of the following year. He secured employment on a farm and during the winter months attended the village school at Dixon, Iowa. In March, 1892, he accompanied his uncle, Henry VanBergen, to Rock county and resided with him on his Springwater township farm for a number of years, and then farmed on his own account in that township until 1901. He farmed a year near Sherman, South Dakota, then went to Sherburne county, Minnesota, remaining there until

1905, the fall of that year returning to Rock county to settle in Denver township. He has rented and lived on his present place since 1908. Mr. Kornmann raises stock quite extensively.

At Luverne, on January 27, 1898, the subject of this review was married to Bertha Maria Lemke, a native of Pommern, Germany, where she was born June 17, 1874. She came to the United States at the age of nine months. The following eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Kornmann: Esther, born November 21, 1898; Hulda, born October 26, 1899; Margaret, born February 24, 1901; Bruno, born July 14, 1902; Martha, born February 24, 1905; Olga, born November 5, 1906; Edna, born March 14, 1908; Eddie, born November 2, 1910.

The year 1910 will be remembered by the E. P. Kornmann family as one of disaster. In the fall of 1909 Hulda was operated upon for appendicitis. One year later Magarthe was operated upon for the same disease. This was followed by another operation one week later, under which the child died. At the time of her death five of the other children of the family were low with typhoid fever but all recovered. Bruno, who had lain ill with the fever for two months, was taken with appendicitis, necessitating an operation, which proved successful.

JOHN THOMPSON (1890), Luverne shoemaker, was born in Germany September 15, 1862. He attended school there and until he was twenty-five years of age made his home with his parents, part of the time working for cattle men and buying and feeding cattle and sheep on his own account in a small way.

When he was twenty-five years of age Mr. Thompson came to America and located first in Clinton, Iowa, where three of his sisters were living. There he attended the public schools for a time. Later he located near Remsen, Iowa, where he was employed as a farm hand. He first came to Rock county in 1890 and resided here one year, being engaged in trading horses and breaking prairie. Thereafter for several years he traveled through the states of Minnesota, Iowa and Missouri, trading and peddling. He returned to southwestern Min-

nesota and spent one year farming in Pipe stone county.

Mr. Thompson was not content to remain in one place long, and for several years after leaving Pipestone county he traveled over the country as a horse trader and peddler. One year he spent farming in Osceola county, Iowa, and then again traveled through Illinois and other states. In 1908 he again became a resident of Rock county, locating in Luverne, where he has since lived, engaged in the shoemaker's business. Mr. Thompson has never married. He is a member of the Yeomen and German Lutheran lodges.

The parents of our subject were Detlof and Yeabke Thompson. In his early days Detlof Thompson was a farmer, but twenty years of his life were spent as a sailing master. He sold his ship and for fifteen years thereafter was a police officer at Freafolm, Germany. He died in 1902 at the age of seventy-five years. The mother of our subject died in 1908 at the age of seventy-five years. There were eight children in the family—six girls and two boys.

ARTHUR J. STORY (1906), farmer of Beaver Creek township, is a native son of Minnesota. He was born in Lyon county on July 30, 1882, and is the son of Albert and Sarah (Southwick) Story. The father, a native of Wisconsin and of English descent, is a resident of Otter Tail county, Minnesota. The mother of our subject, who was born in Pennsylvania, has been dead since 1899.

The Story family moved from Lyon county to the adjoining one of Yellow Medicine when Arthur was ten years of age. Three years later, after spending the summer in Barnes county, North Dakota, they located in Otter Tail county and there our subject was reared on a farm and educated in the district schools. He lived at home until after the death of his mother, in 1889, when he went to Valley Springs, South Dakota, and in that vicinity was employed on farms for six years. The winter of 1905 he passed in the timber country of Cass county, going from there to the town of Sheldon, North Dakota. In the fall of 1906 he established his residence in Rock county. He hired out for two years, later

farmed a short distance southeast of Beaver Creek, and in the spring of 1910 he rented and moved to his present place, the northwest quarter of section 23.

Mr. Story owns eighty acres of land in Otter Tail county, land he acquired nine years ago. He was the overseer of his road district in 1909. Fraternally he is affiliated with the I. O. O. F. lodge of Valley Springs.

CHARLES R. UTLEY (1907) is a Magnolia township farmer. He was born on the ninth of January, 1883, in Delaware county, Iowa, and is the son of Charles L. and Margaret Elizabeth (Scott) Utley, both of whom are still living.

Charles Utley lived in Delaware county until attaining the age of fourteen. Then he accompanied his parents to a new home in Adrian, Minnesota. He early set up as a farmer, and up to the time of his arrival in Rock county in the year 1907, he conducted several different farms in the vicinity of Adrian. The year preceding his arrival in Magnolia township, his home was in Westside township, Nobles county. He now lives on the southwest quarter of section 5 and farms 200 acres.

Mr. Utley was married in Adrian on October 19, 1905, to Carrie Ross, whose birthplace is in Wisconsin. They are the parents of two children, Inis, born March 27, 1907, and Theodore, born November 7, 1908. Mr. Utley holds membership in the lodge of the M. W. A. at Luverne.

FRANK SOUTAR (1893), contractor and builder of Luverne, was born in Forfarshire, Scotland, April 15, 1858, the descendant of a well known Scotch family and the son of George and Jane (Rew) Soutar. There were nine children in this family. Of the children, Frank, William and James are residents of Rock county; Catherine came to America and located in St. Paul in the early eighties, married Peter M. Campbell, and died several years ago. The oldest brother, Charles, joined the English army when a young man and fought in the Zulu war in Africa. He distinguished himself in that campaign and after the war was made a trainer in an English military

school. Later he became one of the grand yeomen of the guard to King Edward. The parents of these children died on their estate in Scotland.

Frank received a common school education and at an early age began working on the farm. At the age of sixteen years he became an apprentice to the carpenter's trade, served a four years' apprenticeship at Guildyden, Scotland, and then worked at the trade four years longer. He came to the United States in 1881 and worked at his trade in St. Paul, Minnesota, until the fall of 1891. He lived in Duluth from that time until 1893, when he located in Luverne, and that city has since been his home. During all of this time Mr. Soutar has been engaged as a contractor and builder. Among the buildings erected by him are the stone building of the Manchester Biscuit company and many other buildings. During a part of the time of his residence in Rock county Mr. Soutar has been engaged in farming in Kanaranzi township. His sons now live on the farm and conduct it.

Mr. Soutar was married in St. Paul in October, 1881 to Isabella Cameron, a daughter of James and Annie (Gelletly) Cameron. She was born in Dundee, Scotland, in 1862. Nine children have been born to this union, as follows: James C., Frank, George, Annie G., Charlie, Willard, Edward and Albert (twins) and Grace.

CHARLES BRAUER (1903), a Springwater township farmer, was born in Saxony, Germany, on the twentieth of July, 1862. Both of his parents, David and Hannah Brauer, lived and died in Germany.

David Brauer was a tailor in the town of Schestat, where it was our subject received an education and passed his youth. At the age of nineteen Charles severed home ties and crossed the Atlantic to seek his fortune in the new world. On arriving in the United States he journeyed to Omaha, Nebraska, and in the vicinity of that city he spent the next ten or eleven years, for the most part engaged in agricultural pursuits. He moved from Nebraska to Cedar county, Iowa, where he was employed in railroad work, and in 1908 he became a resident of Rock county. At that time he rented the southeast quarter of section 18,

Springwater township, which he has since farmed.

Before leaving Nebraska, in April, 1891, Charles Brauer was married to Hilda Kruger. To this union have been born three children, Meda, Ellen and Charles.

CHRIS O. NELSON (1900) is one of the well-to-do and enterprising farmers of Martin township. At the last record his landed possessions covered an area of 1840 acres. Two hundred and eighty acres of this is productive Martin township soil; the rest is as follows: 960 acres in Washington county, Colorado, 120 acres in Woodbury county, Iowa, a half section in Winnebago county, Iowa, and 160 acres located near Milner, North Dakota.

A man of achievement is Chris O. Nelson of this review. He was born in Lasalle county, Illinois, July first, 1862. He is the son of Ole and Annie (Alsager) Nelson, natives of Norway, who came to America and to Lasalle county in 1857. Two years after the birth of our subject the family moved to Clinton county, Iowa, where Chris was educated and grew to manhood on his father's farm. He commenced farming for himself on rented land in Ida county, Iowa, at the age of twenty-five. He later bought 227 acres of land there, which he disposed of on coming to Rock county in 1900.

Mr. Nelson at once purchased the northwest quarter of section 34 and the southeast quarter of section 33, Martin township, which he worked until 1906, when he rented the land and established a residence in Sioux City, Iowa, which was maintained for eighteen months. On July 1, 1908, he returned to Rock county and soon after became the owner of the southwest quarter of section 22 and the west half of the northwest quarter of section 27, of the same township. He sold 200 acres of this land in March, 1909, and his original Rock county holdings in February, 1910, at \$100 per acre. With part of the proceeds he invested in Winnebago county (Iowa) land, paying \$76 per acre for the same. In 1910 he traded his Sioux City property for his Woodbury county land.

Chris O. Nelson has been married twice. The first occasion was his marriage to Dor-

tha Anderson, at Calamus, Iowa, on June 18, 1885. Mrs. Nelson passed away April 12, 1890. Two children were born to this union: Bringle Eli, born July 31, 1886, and Martin Sever, born in March, 1890. The last named son died in the year of his birth. The second time Mr. Nelson was married January 31, 1895, to Annie Hilleson, who was born October 9, 1873, and is the daughter of Lars and Agnetta Hilleson, of Lee county, Illinois, where the mother now lives. Lars Hilleson died in October, 1892. One child, Annie Agnetta, was born to this union May 21, 1896. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are members of the Synod Norwegian Lutheran church.

CHARLES BRUEMMER (1896) has been a Rock county farmer for the past fifteen years. A native of Germany, he was born in Mecklenburg on September 30, 1850. His father and mother, Hans and Johanna (Eichner) Bruemmer, lived and died in the land of the kaiser.

The first twenty-two years of the life of our subject were passed in the land of his birth. His first location in America was Kiel, Calumet county, Wisconsin, where for four months he was employed in a brewery. He then went to Iowa and engaged in farming, first near Davenport and later in Benton county. He returned for a short time to Calumet county, but a little later we find him again at Davenport, from which place, after a six years' residence, he moved to Plymouth county, Iowa. For two years previous to settling in Rock county in 1896, Mr. Bruemmer was a Lyon county (Iowa) farmer. He now rents and farms the west half of section 21, Beaver Creek township.

In Plymouth county, Iowa, in 1884, our subject was married to Minnie Busse, who was born in Moline, Illinois, September 18, 1864, the daughter of John and Christina (Dressen) Busse, natives of Germany. To Mr. and Mrs. Bruemmer have been born the following named children: Bernhart, born February 26, 1885; Albert, born November 13, 1886; Herman, born June 17, 1888; Robert, born December 28, 1890; Clara, born February 16, 1893; George, born March 31, 1901; and Clarence, born September 1, 1903. The family are members of the German Lutheran church.

ERICK RISTE (1907), a Rose Dell township farmer, was born in Valdres, Norway, September 9, 1887, a son of Knut and Engemor (Fystro) Riste. He was reared on a farm and educated in his native land, to which he bade farewell in 1907, at the age of twenty years, and journeyed to the United States and direct to Rock county. He worked out on a farm near Hills for the first year, then rented land and engaged in farming for himself. He has lived on his present place, the southeast quarter of section 11, Rose Dell township, since March, 1910.

Mr. Riste was married at Luverne on February 26, 1910, to Hilda Larson, the daughter of Lars and Elina (Simenson) Olson, of Norway, where also her birth occurred, February 23, 1887. Mr. and Mrs. Riste belong to the Norwegian Lutheran church.

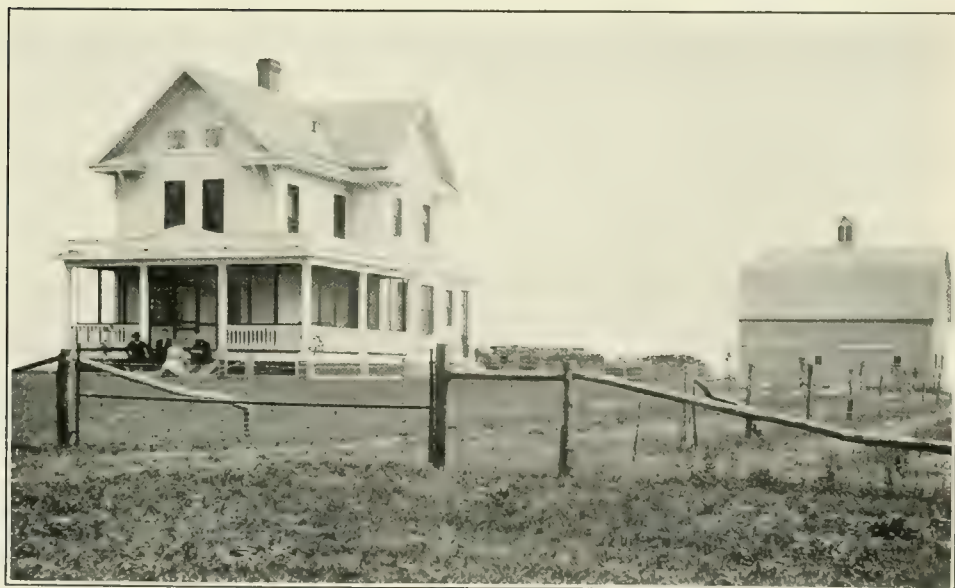
T. G. TAMMEN (1893), a Martin township farmer for the past eighteen years, is a native of Hanover, Germany, born March 22, 1858. Both his father and mother, George and Annie (Meyer) Tammen, are buried in Germany, the former dying in 1906 and the latter in 1903.

During the time of the residence of our subject in his native land, up to 1883, he was engaged in farming and milling. During the year mentioned he immigrated to the United States and located in Iroquois county, Illinois, where he resided nine years. One-third of that time was spent as a farm laborer, then he rented a place which he conducted six years. After a residence of two years near Ashton, Iowa, in 1893 he moved to Rock county. For nine years he rented land in Clinton and Martin townships and then bought his present farm, the southwest quarter of section 25, which includes all south of the railroad track. Since it came into his possession, Mr. Tammen has made all the improvements on the place and now has one of the fine homes of the township. He belongs to the Presbyterian church near Rock Rapids, Iowa. He was the prime mover in the work of building the German Evangelical church of Steen. Mr. Tammen built the foundation for the church.

While living in Germany and on July



FARM HOME OF T. G. TAMMEN, MARTIN TOWNSHIP



FARM HOME OF C. O. NELSON, MARTIN TOWNSHIP

3, 1881, Mr. Tammen was married to Flora Ennenga. One child, Gepkea, born to this union, died at the age of four years. Three of his brother's children, two boys and a girl, have been brought up by Mr. and Mrs. Tammen and now make their home with them. Mr. and Mrs. Tammen departed August 28, 1910, on a trip to the old country, returning October 28 of the same year. After this visit to his old home, Mr. Tammen reports that the United States looks better than ever to him. He was accompanied home by his sister's daughter, Dina Rosenboom, who will reside with Mr. and Mrs. Tammen.

NELS J. NELSON (1880) is one of three brothers (the other two being John and Charley) who are the sons of John Nelson, one of Rock county's most highly respected pioneers and today one of its most prosperous citizens.

John Nelson, above mentioned, was born August 15, 1848, in Brandvold Soler, Norway. During the first years of his manhood he came to America and to Minnesota. After a residence of two years at Lyle, in 1872 he joined the sturdy band of Norwegians whose indomitable activity in the early days of hardships and subsequent success have been mighty factors to which Rock county owes much of the richness of her history. Mr. Nelson took as a homestead the southeast quarter of section 15, Martin township. He was married on December 3, 1874, to Anne Christianson. His father has been dead since 1892; his mother is still hale and hearty at the age of eighty-six years.

Nels of this sketch is the second son of this well-known family and was born May 25, 1880, on the old homestead in Martin township, which remains his home to the present day. Assisting in the management and cultivation of the fertile tract from his early youth, his labors have been blessed and today, with his father and brothers, he takes his place as one of the county's largest land owners, a total of 1120 acres being recorded to the Nelsons' credit. Mr. Nelson is one of the stockholders in the Hills Mercantile company, dealers in grain, flour and feed.

Mr. Nelson's marriage took place at Hills

on June 3, 1908, when he was united in wedlock to Ida Moe, the daughter of Christ and Andrine (Skyberg) Moe. To these parents one child, Selma A., was born on February 21, 1909. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are members of Trinity church.

EDWARD O. THORSON (1908) is a Luverne physician and surgeon. He is a son of the late Andrew E. Thorson and Olena (Thompson) Thorson, the former a native of Wisconsin, the latter of Chicago. These parents were married in Wisconsin in 1872 and engaged in farming near Mount Horeb, in that state. Mr. Thorson died there May 11, 1891, at the age of forty-six years. Mrs. Thorson now resides at Canton, South Dakota. They were the parents of eight children, of whom seven are living.

To these parents Edward O. Thorson was born at Mount Horeb, Wisconsin, on February 15, 1875. He spent his youth living on his parents' farm and attending the district schools. At the age of fourteen he entered the Mount Horeb academy and was a student there three years. Thereafter he clerked in stores in Madison, Wisconsin, until he began the study of medicine in Bennett Medical college, Chicago. He received his diploma from that institution, and in 1906 Dr. Thorson went to Colton, South Dakota, and practised his profession until 1908. In August of that year he located in Luverne and has since been engaged in practice. His office is in the First National Bank building.

Dr. Thorson was married at Churchs Ferry, North Dakota, August 1, 1907, to Alena Kleven, who was born in Klevenville, Dane county, Wisconsin, September 11, 1878. One child has been born to Dr. and Mrs. Thorson, Mildred Adeline, born April 28, 1909.

JENNIE O. HAGEN (1884) resides on the west half of the southwest quarter of section 23, range 47, Beaver Creek township. She is the daughter of Ole and Annie Boen and was born near Gransherred, Norway, on the ninth of April, 1850. She resided at home until 1880, the year of her immigration to the United States. For four years thereafter she was employed at Stevens

Point, Wisconsin, and in 1884 arrived in Rock county. In August of the same year our subject married Tosten O. Hagen, who had come to Rock county from Norway. He was a native of Tinn, Tellemarken, Norway, and was born in January, 1855. Mr. Hagen met a violent death in February, 1885.

Mrs. Hagen is the mother of one child, Gina T. A., born April 16, 1885. Since 1903 she has also cared for an adopted son, Willie E. Rasmussen, who was born January 23, 1895, and was formerly in the orphan's home at Sioux Falls. Mrs. Hagen belongs to the United Norwegian Lutheran church.

HARRY W. MATHEWS (1898) is the proprietor of the leading dray and transfer business in Luverne, a line which employs constantly seven teams. Mr. Mathews first located in Luverne in 1898, at that time accepting employment with the transfer firm of Jones & Shaver. After a year he purchased the interest of Mr. Shaver in the business, and the enterprise was conducted under the firm name of Jones & Mathews until the first of October, 1909, when Mr. Mathews succeeded as the sole proprietor. He is also one of the managers of the Luverne opera house, he with Sam Foight having leased the play house in September, 1910, for a term of years.

A native Iowan, our subject first saw the light of day in Story county on October 12, 1876. His father, Hiles E. Mathews, was born in Ohio and died in 1892. Jennie M. (Whaley) Mathews, his mother, a native of Sangamon county, Illinois, is still living and resides with a son in Denver, Colorado. Harry is one in a family of six children, the others being Charles, of Denver, Colorado; Dwight, a baker on the battleship Montana; Bennett, of Denver; Mrs. C. J. Jordan, of Helena, Montana; and Mrs. C. W. Hunter, of Stroll, South Dakota.

Harry W. Mathews was educated in the district schools of Story county, and on his father's farm he passed his youth. At the age of eighteen he went to the city of Ames, Iowa, which he made his home until removing to Luverne four years later. Our subject was married at Luverne on March 14, 1899, to Nella Smith, a native of Ames,

Iowa, and to this union two children have been born, Donald and Marvel. Mr. Mathews holds membership in a number of Luverne's leading fraternal orders, among them the Encampment and Canton branches of the Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen, United Workmen and Degree of Honor. He has been a trustee of Myrtle Lodge No. 67, I. O. O. F.

BERT W. BENNETT (1873), farmer and stock raiser of Beaver Creek township, was born in and has passed his entire life within the borders of that precinct. He is the son of Levi and Frances (Ellis) Bennett, both natives of New York state, who were among the Rock county pioneers of 1872. In the spring of that year Levi Bennett filed a homestead claim to the southeast quarter of section 27, range 47, Beaver Creek township, and it was on this farm that our subject first saw the light of day, on October 12, 1873. Bert was educated in the district schools and until 1895 resided on and assisted in the operation of the home farm. He then commenced farming for himself, renting land until 1900, when in partnership with his brother, Clyde, he bought his farm of today, the southwest quarter of section 19.

At Beaver Creek, in 1907, the subject of this review was joined in marriage to Elsie Hattinger, the daughter of Jacob and Louise (Lukensmeyer) Hattinger, of Beaver Creek. One daughter, Evelyn May, was born to these parents, on February 3, 1908. Mr. Bennett holds membership in the Yeomen, United Workmen and Degree of Honor lodges.

FERDINAND J. LEMKE (1882), proprietor of Hardwick's only barber shop, has been a resident of Rock county since his third year. He is the son of F. J. and Henrietta Lemke, natives of Germany, who came to America in the late seventies. They homesteaded on section 22, Denver township, where Mr. Lemke died in 1900. His wife, the mother of our subject, now lives at Princeton, Minnesota.

Ferdinand first saw the light of day in the city of LaCrosse, Wisconsin, November 23, 1879. Three years later he accompanied

his parents to Rock county and on his father's farm in Denver township he was a valued assistant until after his twenty-sixth birthday. Two years thereafter he farmed on his own account the southeast quarter of section 4, Denver township. On retiring from the farm he moved to Luverne, where he was initiated into the ins and outs of the barber trade. He left Luverne to make an extended tour of the west. He visited many towns in the Pacific coast states and went as far south as Mexico, supporting himself by his trade enroute. Returning to Minnesota, Mr. Lemke was employed at Wells for a time, and in 1908 he moved to Hardwick and bought his present three-chair barber shop, which he conducts to the complete satisfaction of a large circle of patrons.

Mr. Lemke was joined in marriage at Wells, Minnesota, on April 8, 1908, to Lilian G. Griggs, who was born April 22, 1888, at Grand Island, Nebraska. One son, Ferdinand H., was born to these parents, January 10, 1909. Mr. Lemke is affiliated with the I. O. O. F. lodge.

WILLIAM K. KASCH (1896), of Luverne township, is a native of Germany, born in Holstein March 24, 1872. The first seventeen years of the life of our subject were spent in the land of the kaiser, where he was reared on a farm and received an education in the common schools.

During the year 1889 Mr. Kasch crossed the Atlantic and commenced his career in the land of his adoption. He located first in Sherman county, Nebraska, and hired out as a farm hand. Up to the time of coming to Rock county in 1896, he resided in different parts of Nebraska and Iowa. The first two years in Rock county Mr. Kasch was employed with a threshing crew and at farm labor in Springwater and Luverne townships. In 1898 he was married and the same year moved on to his present farm, the northeast quarter of section 5, which was owned by his wife. With the exception of one year spent on an irrigated farm in Colorado, his residence on the farm mentioned has been continuous since 1898. He has served as road overseer of his district.

William K. Kasch is the son of Carl and

Willhelmina (Jipp) Kasch, who still live with their son. Our subject was married in Rock county on February 14, 1898, to Lucine Ahrendt, who was born in Benton county, Iowa, August 16, 1867. One son and two daughters have blessed this union: Paul, born November 22, 1898; Millie, born May 22, 1901; and Esther, born August 17, 1902. Mr. and Mrs. Kasch are members of the German Evangelical Lutheran church.

JOHN G. GABRIALSON (1895), a Kanaranzi township farmer, has lived in Rock county the entire sixteen years he has been an adopted son of Uncle Sam. He was born near Christiansand, Norway, March 14, 1878. His father, Gabriel Hoiland, still resides in the land of the midnight sun at an advanced age. The mother, Rebeka (Olson) Hoiland, died December 8, 1906.

John Gabrielson's life until after his seventeenth birthday was spent in the land of his birth. He was brought up on a farm and received an education afforded by the neighboring school. This was supplemented by a short term of schooling after coming to America and to Rock county, which was in 1895. For the first two years after his arrival he was employed by his brothers, who were farmers in Kanaranzi township; then he set up as an independent tiller of the soil. Settling on the northeast quarter of section 8, of which he is the owner of forty acres, he continues to conduct the same farm. Mr. Gabrielson is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church. He is unmarried.

GEORGE M. BENDT (1890), of Springwater township, has a continuous residence in Rock county of twenty-one years to his credit. A native of Germany, he was born in Holstein February 21, 1873, the son of Henry and Dora (Schmidt) Bendt. George came to America with his parents at the age of eleven years and resided with them for six years in Scott county, Iowa. In 1890 the father came with his family to Rock county and rented land in Luverne township, where our subject finished his education in the district schools. After coming of age he worked out on different

farms for a time, and in 1903 he rented his present land, the southeast quarter of section 36, Springwater township, and commenced farming on his own account. He is a director of school district No. 46.

Mr. Bendt was married in Luverne on October 4, 1893, to Eda Geoskey. She was born March 6, 1878, the daughter of Fred and Sophia (Jonart) Geoskey, both natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Bendt have the following named children: William, born November 13, 1895; George, born January 24, 1897; Alma, born April 22, 1898; Herman, born April 3, 1901; Edna, born April 11, 1902; and Hilda, born June 7, 1904.

JOSEPH L. SNOOK (1884) with his cousin, J. F. Snook, operates the popular restaurant and confectionery store known as Snook's cafe, located in the McGraff building on the main street of Luverne. He was born in McLean county, Illinois, August 17, 1874.

Our subject is the eldest living son of W. H. and Sarah M. (Johnson) Snook, both natives of Ohio, who in early youth became residents of McLean county, Illinois, where they were married and lived until 1884. That year they moved to Rock county, bought land and farmed in Luverne township until 1895, and then removed to De Witt county, Illinois, where W. H. Snook died July 7, 1900, at the age of fifty-three. The mother now resides in Luverne and is the owner of the Rock county farm. There were six children in the family, one of whom died in infancy. Besides Joseph L. the others are Harry, Daisy, Stella and Rosa.

Joseph was a lad of ten years when he accompanied his parents from Illinois to Rock county. He lived on the home farm, attended the rural schools and assisted with the work until attaining his majority. He then married and managed his father's farm four years. Since then his home has been in the city of Luverne. He operated a bus and transfer line for some time, then in partnership with Ira Sanders bought the Union livery barn. On retiring from the livery business he was employed as a grocery clerk for a year and a half and for a short period served as the city marshal. In 1904 Mr. Snook assisted in the

organization of the Luverne Mercantile company and was connected with the firm as buyer until March of the following year, when he became the owner of the F. L. Burley restaurant. In 1907 he admitted his cousin into partnership in the business, a union which still exists. He is a member of the fire department and of the following fraternal orders: Odd Fellows, Rebekahs and Modern Woodmen. He holds the degree of patriarch militant in the first named order.

The marriage of Mr. Snook to Hattie Heinz was solemnized in Luverne on February 2, 1899. Mrs. Snook is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. Heinz, of Luverne, and she was born in Appleton, Wisconsin, January 2, 1876. One son, Leo L., was born to this union on September 26, 1901.

HENRY SCHLUETER (1900), who manages the interests of the J. P. Coffey Grain company at Ashcreek, was born in Germany on the twenty-seventh of May, 1864. He is the son of Frank and Anna (Schultz) Schlueter, the former of whom lives in the old country at the advanced age of eighty-three years. The mother died some years ago.

Henry received a good education in his native land. He completed the course of the common schools and at an early age entered the high school of his town, where he was a student for several years. The United States has been his adopted country since 1880. For the first six years following his arrival he was employed as a farm laborer near Salem, South Dakota. Going from there to Omaha, Nebraska, he was employed on the Union Pacific railroad until 1892. That date marks his commencement as a citizen of Minnesota. He rented a farm near Adrian and conducted the same for eight years. Ashcreek in 1900 became his home. He lived in the village, building himself a residence, and for seven years farmed a piece of land near by. Then for two years previous to the spring of 1900, when he assumed his present duties in Ashcreek, he farmed near Hardwick.

Mr. Schlueter holds membership in the M. W. A. and I. O. O. F. lodges. While living in Omaha, on November 21, 1886, he was married to Hannah Law, the daughter

of John and Margaret Law, who came from Germany in 1881 and settled near the Nebraska city. They are the parents of three children, Anna M., Emil and Henry.

ANNIE M. TUFF (1887) is the widow of Hans Tuff, for more than twenty years a well known Rock county farmer. She was born in Hadeland, Norway, March 10, 1865, the daughter of Nels and Annie Olson. At the age of twenty-two she came alone to America and direct to Rock county. For a time she was employed by Mrs. Asle O. Skattum, and the year after her arrival she was married to Hans Tuff. Mr. Tuff came to Rock county from his native land, Norway, and bought eighty acres of section 32, and eighty acres of section 29, also the southwest quarter of section 32, all in Martin township. The latter tract he disposed of in 1885, but the title to the remainder of the land is held by his widow. Mr. Tuff died August 5, 1901.

There are seven children in the Tuff family, all except the eldest residing at home, and are as follows: Bertha M. (Mrs. Peter Erickson), of Beadle county, South Dakota, born October 5, 1888; Anna N., born September 22, 1890; Olga, born July 10, 1892; Henry O., born March 23, 1894; Enga C., born March 4, 1896; Alfred, born February 23, 1898; Melvin H., born June 27, 1901.

JAMES A. DAVIDSON (1904), proprietor of the Central hotel of Luverne, is a native of Portage, Wisconsin, and was born April 28, 1856. His father died when our subject was a baby. James was brought up in his native town, making his home with his mother until he was twenty-two years of age and securing a common school education in Portage.

In 1878 Mr. Davidson located in Adrian. Soon afterward he married and for several years engaged in farming near Adrian. Moving to Bryant, South Dakota, Mr. Davidson bought a flour store and meat market, which he conducted three years. He next located in Pipestone and for seven years was engaged in the restaurant business, after which he was engaged in the hotel business in Jasper one and one-half years. In September, 1904, Mr. Davidson

moved to Luverne and he has since been the proprietor of the Central hotel, one of the pioneer hostleries of the city.

The parents of our subject, James and Agnes (Duff) Davidson, were of Scottish birth. Soon after their marriage they came to America and located at Portage, Wisconsin, where their only child, the subject of this biography, was born. James Davidson, Sr., died in Portage, at the age of twenty-five years; his widow remarried and now lives at Bryant, South Dakota, aged seventy-seven years.

James A. Davidson was married at Luverne October 30, 1889, to Rose M. Calkins, also a native of Wisconsin. They are the parents of six living children, named as follows: Charles C., of Luverne; Maud M. (Mrs. Bert Henton), of Beaver Creek; Grace M., Bernice E., Fred V. and Harry A. A son, Alton J., died June 21, 1909, at the age of twenty-one years.

Mr. Davidson is a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge of Luverne and of the Ancient Order of United Workmen of Adrian.

JOHN M. TRENHAILE (1892) is engaged in the livery and dray business in Hardwick and also engages in farming. He is the son of Thomas and Eliza (Paul) Trenhaile, prominent and respected residents of Hardwick, and is one of a family of eight children, named as follows: Henry, John, Clarence, Guy, Mabel, Maud, Carrie and Florence.

John was born in Saunders county, Nebraska, April 28, 1875. When a boy of thirteen years he moved with his parents from Nebraska to Orient, Faulk county, South Dakota, and there resided three years. John attended the village school and assisted his father in the work around his store and livery stable. Since 1892 his home has been in Hardwick and he has followed the pursuits before mentioned. He is unmarried and makes his home with his parents.

Thomas Trenhaile, the father of our subject, is a native of Dodgeville, Wisconsin, where he was born December 26, 1849, the son of George and Mary (Stephens) Trenhaile. He began the battle of life for himself on arriving at the age of twenty-one. During the summer seasons he work-

ed as a farm laborer and during the other seasons was employed in the mines. For fifteen years he farmed in Saunders county, Nebraska, then was engaged in the mercantile business at Orient, South Dakota, until 1892, since which time he has lived in Hardwick. The first year of his residence there he conducted a general store, and then for two years farmed a few miles from the village. He again entered the mercantile field and with Q. Stark conducted a hardware store four years, when he sold out his interest to his partner and engaged in the livery and dray business and farming. In recent years he purchased the hardware and harness stock of Q. Stark and the drug business of A. H. Haigley, combined the two stocks, and is now a hardware and drug merchant.

Thomas Tranhaile was justice of the peace two years and for the same length of time served on the village council. He was married in Iowa county, Wisconsin, October 10, 1873, to Eliza Paul.

LEE ENGLISH (1902), of Beaver Creek township, was born in McLean county, Illinois, July 14, 1877. He is the son of D. H. and Jane (Frankeberger) English, residents of Ellsworth, Illinois, where the former conducts a saw mill. Both parents are natives of Illinois and come from families of long residence in America.

Lee was educated in the district schools of his native county, where he passed the first twenty-five years of his life. He assisted his father with the supervision of the home farm, then was engaged in teaming for several years prior to leaving Illinois and coming to Rock county in March, 1902. For the first two years after settlement in this county, Mr. English was employed by an uncle in Beaver Creek township, then worked for seven months in a livery barn at Beaver Creek village. He assisted his uncle for another year, then set up in farming on his own account. He farmed 100 acres of section 16 for a year, was located for a like period on an eighty acre farm on section 9, and since 1907 has rented and conducted with success his present place, the south half of section 16. He is a large breeder of Chester White hogs.

Lee English and Nettie Brooks were mar-

ried at Beaver Creek on September 26, 1907. Mrs. English was born near Sheldon, Iowa, August 7, 1882, the daughter of E. C. and Julia Brooks, now residents of Beaver Creek. One child, Norma Gertrude, was born to these parents on April 22, 1910. Mr. and Mrs. English are members of the Beaver Creek Presbyterian church.

HALVOR J. BOE (1904), of Rose Dell township, is a native Norwegian, having been born in Borge Prestefeld Lofoten on July 18, 1883. He is the son of Johan and Hansine (Gilbertson) Anderson, and is the third in a family of four children, the others of whom are Alexandria (Mrs. M. O. Pettersen), of Rose Dell township; Gustav A., who died in infancy; and Magnhild, who lives in the old home in Norway. Our subject acquired a common school education in his native land, worked out as a farm laborer, and in 1904 came to this country and direct to Rock county. He lives with his brother-in-law, M. O. Pettersen. He works forty acres of land and threshes during the harvest seasons.

JOHN E. LAMM (1899), cigar manufacturer of Luverne, was born in Freeport, Illinois, the fourteenth of December, 1879. When four years of age he moved with his parents to Adrian, Nobles county, Minnesota, where they still reside. His father, Andrew Lamm, is a native of New York state, while his mother, Barbara (Scheadley) Lamm, was born in the city of Freeport. John has four sisters: Clara, Lulu, Mayme and Agnes.

After acquiring an education in the public schools of Adrian, our subject entered the cigar manufactory of W. L. Bartlett at that place as an apprentice. He mastered the cigar maker's trade under Mr. Bartlett, and in August, 1899, he moved to Luverne and entered the employ of E. L. Dobell, with whom he was connected for more than ten years. In August, 1910, Mr. Lamm established a factory of his own in Luverne and has made the venture a success. His principal brands of cigars are "La Palma," "Luverne, Our Choice," "Lamm's Best" and "Miss Dainty." He is a member of the

Luverne fire department and the Odd Fellows and Modern Woodmen lodges.

John E. Lamm was married in Luverne on May 30, 1902, to Clara Thomte, the daughter of Hans Thomte, of Luverne. She was born in the county January 10, 1881. One daughter, Fern, has been born to this union. There is a peculiar distinction in connection with the birth of Mrs. Lamm. She was born ten days later than her twin sister, Enga, the only case on medical record of such a long interval in connection with a dual birth.

JACOB O. JACOBSON (1897)^{*} is a well known farmer and stock raiser of Martin township. He is the son of Abraham and Nicholine (Hegg) Jacobson, natives of Norway, who came to America early in life. Abraham Jacobson was a minister of the gospel and his first charges in the new world were in Illinois and Iowa. He was one of the very first to settle in Winneshiek county, Iowa.

It was in Winneshiek county, on April 13, 1868, that Jacob O. Jacobson of this review was born. Shortly after that event, he accompanied his parents to Dane county, Wisconsin, where his youth was passed. After mastering the curriculum of the district schools, he was for two years a student at Breckenridge college, located at Decorah, Iowa. For two years previous to his locating in Rock county, in 1897, Jacob was a resident of the state of Washington. He was the landlord of a hotel in the town of Stanwood for part of the time, later being employed in a saw mill. For a number of years our subject was engaged in the business of well driller, and in 1901 he bought his present place, the northeast quarter of section 11, range 47, which he continues to farm. Mr. Jacobson has served for a considerable period on both the township board and the board of his school district. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator company of Valley Springs and in the Farmers Telephone company.

Jacob O. Jacobson has been twice married. He was joined in the bonds of matrimony August 21, 1894, in Winneshiek county, Iowa, to Mary A. Johnson, and to this union one son, Paul Allert, was born September 22, 1896. Mrs. Jacobson died May

16, 1897. Again, on June 28, 1900, at East Sioux Falls, South Dakota, our subject was married to Bertha Iverson, who was born September 19, 1867, and is the daughter of Iver and Kristi (Sponheim) Borsheim, of Minnehaha county, South Dakota. These parents have three children, namely: Iver A., Carl N. and Mary A. Mr. and Mrs. Jacobson are members of the United Lutheran church of Hills.

SAMUEL A. CARTER (1907) is a leading citizen of Ashcreek, where he has been engaged in the grain business since February, 1907. New York is his native state, and in Broome county he was born February 16, 1846.

When six years of age our subject moved with his parents to Adams county, Wisconsin, where he was reared on his father's farm and attended the district schools. Samuel was a lad of sixteen when he enlisted in the union army to aid in the defense of his country and her honor. He served for three years and was an active participant in the engagements at Vicksburg, Pleasant Hills, Franklin, Nashville and Tupelo, Mississippi, not to mention others of lesser importance. Mr. Carter's regiment was mustered out at Clinton, Iowa, September 8, 1865. At the return of peace he returned home, secured another year's schooling, and then rented a farm, which he operated six years. After that he engaged in the grain business at various places until 1890, when he located at Primghar, Iowa, and was in the employ of the McCormick Harvester company for three years.

In the election of 1894, Mr. Carter was chosen sheriff of O'Brien county, Iowa, and served in that capacity four years. He was then justice of the peace for a year. In 1899 he re-engaged in the grain business, at Egan, South Dakota, where he remained until 1907. That year, in company with his son, he bought the J. Morland elevator at Ashcreek, which he has since conducted. In connection with his own business, he manages the local yard of the W. T. Joyce Lumber company.

Mr. Carter was married at Laporte, Indiana, December 20, 1866, to Sarah K. Drake, a daughter of William H. and Bet-

sie (Cline) Drake, of Mitchell county, Iowa. Three sons and a daughter have blessed this union: Frank A., born February 22, 1868; Fred L., born January 10, 1869; Lillian A., born October 8, 1872; and Charles E., born November 20, 1875.

Mr. Carter is chairman of the Clinton township board of supervisors. He is a prominent lodge man and has passed through many of the Masonic degrees. He holds membership in lodges of that order at Coleman and Flandreau, South Dakota, and at Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He is also a member of the G. A. R. and of the Congregational church.

THOMAS EDWIN LEWIS (1890) has spent all except the first seven years of his life as a Rock county resident. A native of Coffey county, Kansas, he was born April 27, 1883. His parents, Thomas and Mattie (Tidd) Lewis, both natives of Ohio, moved from Kansas with their family to Rock county in 1890. Until attaining his majority, the life of Thomas was much the same as the average healthy country boy. He entered the district schools and early began performing the many tasks on the home farm. In the first year of his manhood he rented land and commenced farming on his own account. In 1905 he rented and moved to his present place, the northeast quarter of section 14, range 47, Springwater township.

Our subject was married in Luverne March 27, 1903, to Florence E. Maurice, a daughter of Charles and Lizzie (Bourne) Maurice. Mr. and Mrs. Lewis are the parents of the following children: Florence E., Gertrude L. and Floyd E.

HENRY GOETTSCH (1909), one of the more recently established farmers of Denver township, is a German by birth and breeding. He was born in the province of Holstein the fifteenth of December, 1861. His parents, Henry and Cecelia (Snyder) Goettsch, lie buried in the fatherland. The former died in 1888 and the latter in 1903.

Henry worked on the home farm until after his sixteenth birthday. He then commenced to hire out and was employed at

farm labor until the time of his immigration to the United States in 1885, at the age of twenty-four. He resided two years in O'Brien county, Iowa; then for fifteen years he was a farmer of Benton county, Iowa. In 1902 Mr. Goettsch became a resident of Minnesota. He farmed rented land near Woodstock, Pipestone county, for seven years, or until the fall of 1909, when he established a home on the Rock county farm he now cultivates, the northeast quarter of section 33, Denver township. Our subject is a director of school district No. 71 and the overseer of road district No. 4. He is a shareholder in the Woodstock Farmers Elevator company.

While residing in Benton county, Iowa, on February 15, 1893, Henry Goettsch was joined in marriage to Tena Hanson, a native of the county of her marriage. She was born February 13, 1875, the daughter of Carsten and Mary (Behrendberg) Hanson, natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Goettsch are the parents of the following seven children, four sons and three daughters: Dora M., born December 10, 1893; Bennie C., born February 18, 1896; Arthur H., born September 18, 1897; Louis E., born April 1, 1900; Leonora C., born October 11, 1901; Ella T., born March 9, 1903; and Richard J., born May 27, 1908. The family are members of the German Lutheran church.

JOHN A. ALBERT (1905), of Luverne, is a native Minnesotan, having been born at Mankato and having received his education in the public schools of that city. At the age of sixteen he moved to St. James, and there learned the trade of harness maker. Three years later, in company with his brother George, he set up in the harness and repair business in St. James. Their business grew from the start. The brothers established four other shops, in the towns of Hartley, Granville and Rock Rapids, Iowa, and Adrian, Minnesota, operating them all from the headquarters in St. James. After a residence of ten years in St. James, Mr. Albert removed to Adrian and took charge of his shop at that point for a period of five years. At the time of the death of his brother he disposed of the firm's line of harness shops and returned

to St. James. For three years our subject managed the Park hotel cafe, then in 1905 took up his residence in Luverne and engaged in business.

John A. Albert is the son of John J. and Christina (Vix) Albert. The father came to this country from Germany at the age of sixteen years and located in Buffalo, New York. On attaining his majority he went to Canada, and then in 1857 to Mankato, Minnesota, where he was a prominent contractor and builder up to the time of his death, February 9, 1910. He was seventy-eight years old at the time of his decease. Mr. Albert served as a guard at the memorable execution of the thirty-eight Sioux Indians at Mankato, a consequence of the horrible and grewsome massacres of the whites recorded in Minnesota's territorial history. Mr. Albert assisted in the construction of the fortifications built at Mankato as a necessary precaution in the troublesome times referred to. During the growth of the city he was the builder of many of its prominent and substantial buildings. He built the first Catholic church at Mapleton the same year that the James brothers succeeded in their daring raid on the bank at Northfield. Mrs. Albert is still living at Mankato and is in her sixty-eighth year. They were the parents of ten children, eight of whom are now living.

Our subject was married at Davenport, Iowa, May 20, 1903, to Amanda Toll, a native of that city and the daughter of Christian and Minnie Toll. The father, Christian Toll, has been dead for some time, but Mrs. Toll is still living and resides at Los Angeles, California. Mr. and Mrs. Albert are the parents of two children: John E., born May 17, 1905, and Jerome G., born November 1, 1906. He is affiliated with the K. P. and Eagles lodges.

H. KUHNERT (1888) owns and farms the northeast quarter of section 34, Beaver Creek township. His parents are Ed. and Augusta (Nest) Kuhnert, who make their home with their son. The father was born in Truskastover, Verschleen, Germany, in 1843, came to America in 1866, and after living twenty years in Wisconsin came to Rock county, where he has since resided.

To these parents our subject was born in Marquette county, Wisconsin, on September 11, 1871. His boyhood days were spent on a farm and he received a district school education. In 1887 he started on a trip with his parents through North Dakota and Montana, and the following year came with them to Rock county. Until 1895 he made his home under the parental roof on the farm in Martin township; then he married and started out in life for himself. He bought a farm in West Heron Lake township, Jackson county, and for the next eight years was engaged in farming there. Then he returned to Rock county, bought his present farm, the northeast quarter of section 34, Beaver Creek township, from T. P. Grout, and has since made his home there. He has made practically all the improvements on the farm, there being only a small barn at the time of purchase, and he has a fine home. He raises stock, making a specialty of Durham cattle.

Mr. Kuhnert was married in Rost township, Jackson county, September 21, 1895, to Emma Sievert, who was born in Illinois March 23, 1878. To these parents have been born the following named five children: Walter, born December 9, 1896; Elmer, born July 11, 1899; Eddie, born June 1, 1905; Estner, born July 25, 1906; Freeda, born April 23, 1909. The two first named were born in Jackson county, the others in Rock county. Mr. Kuhnert and family are members of the German Lutheran church.

CARL OMODT (1901), the proprietor of a Hills meat market, is a native of Norway, where he was born February 18, 1879. He is the son of Otto and Olina Omodt, both of whom died in the land of the midnight sun. They were the parents of five children, all living, who, besides Carl of this sketch, are Amelia, Hannah, Kristine and Otto.

Carl received a common school education in his native land, and there learned the butcher's trade, at which he worked up to the time of his leaving for America in 1901 at the age of twenty-two. He came direct to Rock county and located in Luverne, where he resided five years, spending most of that time as a clerk in a

store. He followed a variety of occupations for awhile. In 1906 he settled in Hills, the same year purchasing the butcher shop of Stordahl Bros. and the building in which it was contained. He served as clerk of the village board during 1909. Mr. Omodt is a member of the M. W. A. lodge and of the United Norwegian Lutheran church.

At Luverne, on September 11, 1905, Anna Ellingson became the wife of Carl Omodt. Mrs. Omodt was born in Norway July 20, 1878. This union has been blessed by two children: Gladys, born June 20, 1906, and Signe, born October 4, 1907.

ISAAC W. TOWER (1896) is the manager of the Davenport Elevator company's interests at Luverne. He is the son of Isaac W. and Harriett A. (Holbrook) Tower, natives of Canada and Buffalo, New York, respectively. They were among the early day settlers of Fox Lake, Wisconsin, where they conducted a hotel for a number of years. After a period spent as a farmer and grain buyer at Brandon, the same state, Mr. Tower and his family in 1866 became residents of Minnesota. The elder Mr. Tower conducted grain elevators at Spring Valley and Wykoff. The last few years of his life were spent with his son at Marcus, Iowa, where he died in November 1894, at the age of seventy-two years. Mrs. Tower died at Spring Valley during her forty-eighth year. They were the parents of two children, our subject and a daughter, Hattie P. (Mrs. Richard Cunningham), of England.

The Tower family is of early English origin. Three brothers came to the United States during the colonial period and settled in New England. One of the brothers returned to his native land and it is from the other two that the American branch of the family has sprung. With the exception of the families of Isaac W., above referred to, and a brother, D. W., the Towers are to be found only as residents of the New England states.

It was during the residence of the family in Brandon, Wisconsin, that Isaac W. Tower of this biography was born on July 10, 1863. He was three years of age when he accompanied his parents to Spring Val-

ley, Minnesota, and this state has since been the scene of his activities. Ever since his seventeenth birthday Mr. Tower has been more or less closely identified with the grain business, as was his father before him. He managed elevators for his father at Fairmont and Winnebago City. For eleven years he was connected with the firm of E. J. Edmonds & Co. as grain buyer at Steen, Rock county, and at Marcus, Iowa. For three years thereafter he was stationed at Ellsworth for Cudahy & Butler. In 1902 he came to Luverne and engaged in farming and other occupations until October, 1909; since then he has fulfilled the duties of his present position.

Mr. Tower was married at Pipestone October 23, 1885, to Teresa Maloney, who was born in Olmsted county, Minnesota, June 27, 1865, and is the daughter of Michael and Winefred Maloney. Mr. and Mrs. Tower are the parents of the following named children: Winnifred H., Harry L., Bernice D., Grace A., Perry W., Hope E. and Isaac W.

JACOB KOHN (1907), of Springwater township, has been a resident of Uncle Sam's domain since 1907 and of Rock county for the entire period which has intervened. His birth occurred in Holstein, Germany, August 27, 1861. His parents, Chris and Amarinda (Mildenstein) Kohn, are both buried in the fatherland.

Jacob Kohn of this review grew to manhood on his father's farm. At the age of twenty-three he commenced farming for himself, continuing that occupation in the land of his birth until 1907, when he and his family immigrated to America and direct to Rock county. Two sons, Christ and Andrew, and a daughter, Emma, had preceded the rest of the family to this country five years and had been employed most of that time in Yellow Medicine county, Minnesota. In the spring of 1909 Mr. Kohn leased the farm he now conducts, the northwest quarter of section 22, for a term of four years.

Jacob Kohn is a man of family. He was married in Germany August 4, 1886, to Dora Detlif, who was born August 15, 1863, the daughter of Daniel and Dora (Reckert) Detlif. They are the parents

of the following named children: Chris D., born December 17, 1888; Andrew P., born April 19, 1890; Jacob, born March 10, 1894; Peter J., born March 14, 1898; Emma D., born January 3, 1889; Cathrina D., born September 21, 1899; and Wilhelmina, born March 22, 1902. The family are members of the German Lutheran church.

KNUDT K. FLODEN (1903), a farmer of Rose Dell township, was born in Haug-sund, Norway, on the seventh day of March, 1884. He is the son of Knut and Catherine (Selde) Floden, who lived on a farm in Norway upon which our subject was reared. He was educated in the common schools of his native land.

In 1903 Knudt severed home ties and made the ocean voyage to America. That same year he settled in Rock county, the scene of his subsequent activities. He hired out as a farm laborer until the spring of 1909, when he returned for a visit to his old home in Norway. Returning to Rock county in the fall of the same year, he hired out to Joseph H. Jones, and has since operated that gentleman's farm, the west half of section 16, Rose Dell township.

In Boone, Iowa, on August 29, 1908, Knudt K. Floden was joined in the bonds of matrimony to Mary D. Fillmore. Mrs. Floden was born at Madrid, Iowa, November 22, 1889, and is the daughter of Charles W. and Catherine (Long) Fillmore, both natives of the Hawkeye state.

BENJAMIN W. COOPER (1901) has been a farmer of Vienna township for the past ten years. He is of English birth, his nativity having occurred in Somersetshire on January 16, 1879. He is the son of Charles and Sarah (Nuttycumb) Cooper, residents of Vienna township.

Benjamin was an infant in his first year when he accompanied his parents in their removal to the United States. The family were located in Onondaga county, New York, for seven years. Then, pushing westward, the family shrine was established in Henry county, Illinois, its location until 1901, when the move to Rock county was made. Our subject was brought

up on the old Illinois farm and was educated in the district schools of that state. For the first two years of his residence in Rock county Mr. Cooper assisted his father on the home farm, then commenced his career as an independent farmer. He now rents and operates the west half of section 26. He is an extensive stock raiser and always maintains a large herd of high bred cattle, hogs and sheep. In 1909 Mr. Cooper was elected to the clerkship of school district No. 30. He is a member of the M. W. A. lodge of Magnolia.

Before leaving Henry county, Illinois, on January 8, 1901, Benjamin W. Cooper was married to Rosa A. Noe. She is a native of Henry county and was born November 2, 1879. Two children have been born to these parents, Lucile, born October, 1908, and Eleanor Edith, born March 7, 1910.

OTTO K. STEEN (1877). In Rose Dell township there is no more prominent family than that of the Steens. Among them are the township's very earliest settlers and its most progressive farmers. In the promotion of every worthy enterprise that means for the advancement and enlightenment of the community none is more zealous.

The representative of this desirable family whose name heads this review is the son of Knut K. and Karn (Bottolfson) Steen, hardy Norsemen, who departed from native vales at an early date to become identified with progress in America. A landing was made at New York on June 7, 1853, Mr. Steen going direct from the metropolis to Chicago, where he secured employment for several months at railroad construction work. It was decided to locate in Allamakee county, Iowa, and near the town of Lansing Mr. Steen was engaged in farming for nearly twenty years. There he was married to Karen Bottelfson on November 7, 1856.

Becoming interested in the new Rock county, Minnesota, in 1874 Knut K. Steen sold his Iowa land holdings and journeyed to this goal of his desire. He filed a homestead claim to the southwest quarter of section 14 and took as a timber claim the northwest quarter of the same section, in

Rose Dell township. He lived for three years on his prairie claim before moving his family to the scene. The pestilence of grasshoppers came as a serious check to anything like a fruitful harvest, and, consequently, money was a scarce commodity. The nearest neighbors to Mr. Steen at the time of his settlement were at Pipestone, fourteen miles to the north; to the south, two miles; to the west, twenty-two miles; and to the east, fifteen miles. The nearest railroad was fifty miles away.

In 1877 the government established a postoffice, known as Meadow, on the Steen farm, K. K. Steen serving as postmaster from that date until the office was discontinued in 1895. The first meeting of the Rose Dell Norwegian Lutheran church was held on his farm October 15, 1878, and the services were conducted by Rev. C. A. Naeseth, of Luverne. This valiant pioneer and man of energy, Knut K. Steen, passed away from the things of earth on May 14, 1901.

Otto K. Steen, the son and able successor of the man we have been considering, was born in Allamakee county February 20, 1872, but continuously since his fifth year his life has been passed in Rock county and on the old Rose Dell homestead taken by his father. He was educated in the district schools and early commenced to do his share in the operation of the home farm. He was the active manager of the farm from 1890 to 1902. In 1902 and 1903 Otto bought the farm and also forty acres of the northwest quarter of section 14, which makes a total area of 200 acres of productive soil which he now farms. He is one of the largest stock raisers in the precinct.

Always deeply interested in the many affairs of local importance, Mr. Steen has been called upon repeatedly to serve in offices of trust. He was the clerk of Rose Dell township for five years, a supervisor for three years and was also for a time a justice of the peace. For five years immediately following 1890 he carried mail from the old Meadow postoffice and also from Trosky. Mr. Steen is a firm believer in the benefits of co-operation and carries out his precepts, as he owns stock in the following concerns of that nature: Farmers Elevator company, Farmers Co-opera-

tive Mercantile company and the creamery, all of Jasper, and in the South Dakota Rural Telephone company. He is also a stockholder in the First National Bank of Jasper, and is a director of the Rose Dell Mutual Insurance company, of which his father, K. K. Steen, was the first president.

Our subject was married in Rose Dell township on June 4, 1902, to Milla Norvold, who was born in Rose Dell township March 3, 1883, and who has always resided in that precinct. She is the daughter of Peter H. and Maren (Saga) Norvold, natives of Norway, who settled in Allamakee county, Iowa, in 1861, and came to Rock county in the fall of 1877. One son, Kenneth P., was born to Mr. and Mrs. Steen, on November 7, 1907. Mr. and Mrs. Steen are members of the Trfoldighed Norwegian Lutheran church of Rose Dell.

ANDREW T. HAUGLID (1886) owns and farms the northwest quarter and the west half of the southeast quarter of section 17, Rose Dell township, and is a Rock county resident of twenty-five years' standing. Born in Skedsmo, Norway, July 6, 1859, our subject was there educated and reared to manhood. His parents, Torger and Dorthé (Olson) Hanson, were farmers in the old country.

Andrew departed from the scenes of his nativity and youth in 1886 and crossed the Atlantic to make settlement in the newer world. The same year he located in Rock county and the year following became the owner of the east half of section 26 and the northwest quarter of section 36, Rose Dell township. He held that land for three years, and after an experience as a renter he bought the northeast quarter of section 21, in the same township. Six years later he again changed locations, purchasing that time the southwest quarter of section 24. On disposing of this land after five years, he farmed in Springwater township for a period, but in 1908 returned to Rose Dell and bought the land he now farms. He is a large raiser of high grade stock. Mr. Hauglid has served as school clerk for fifteen years and has been assessor eleven years. He owns stock in the



FARM HOME OF OTTO K. STEEN, ROSE DELL TOWNSHIP
For Many Years the Home of the Late K. K. Steen, a Rock County Pioneer.



FAMILY OF ANDREW T. HAUGLID, ROSE DELL TOWNSHIP

Farmers Elevator company and the Jasper Co-operative Mercantile company.

Mr. Haugild is a man of family. He was married at Luverne on January 3, 1887, to Emma Larson, who was born October 3, 1867. She is the daughter of Anton and Susan (Schroeder) Larson, the former a native of Norway and the latter of Denmark. Mr. and Mrs. Haugild are the parents of the following named fifteen children: Dagny S., born November 3, 1887; Thora A., born December 16, 1888; Albert E., born May 27, 1890; Marie E., born November 11, 1891; Otto D., born January 29, 1893; Clara L., born August 3, 1894; Leonard N., born December 21, 1895; Ludvig T., born October 4, 1897; Elmer J., born April 12, 1899, died October 30, 1899; Tigrud E., born October 30, 1900; Helen, born December 4, 1902; Ella S., born October 8, 1904; Elmer J., born October 14, 1906; Milla, born October 16, 1908; Martha Christine Mildred, born December 7, 1910. The family are members of the United Norwegian Lutheran church.

ADOLPH STEINFELDT (1893) conducts a model blacksmithing, horseshoeing and general machine shop in Luverne. He was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, October 20 1877, where he lived for the first five years of his life. For ten years thereafter he lived with his parents on a farm in Aurora county, South Dakota, and then was in the city of Eau Claire, Wisconsin, for one year. In 1893 the Steinfeldt family became residents of Luverne. The father became the owner of the blacksmith shop which Adolph now conducts. He was employed in the shop with his father for twelve years, and since the latter's death has conducted it alone.

Adolph Steinfeldt, Sr., the father, and Harriett Steinfeldt, the mother of our subject, were both natives of Germany. The elder Mr. Steinfeldt was a blacksmith in Dane county, Wisconsin, for many years and then homesteaded land in Aurora county, South Dakota. He moved to Luverne in 1893 and bought the shop of Andrew Enger, which he continued to conduct up to the time of his death, November 1, 1906. He was fifty-six years old at the time. His wife still lives in Luverne at the age of

fifty-four. Adolph of this review was the second oldest in a family of two sons and two daughters. Land which the elder Mr. Steinfeldt bought in Burke township, Pipestone county, in 1897, is now the property of his heirs.

Our subject was married in Luverne on October 27, 1909, to Alta I. Ackley, the daughter of I. L. Ackley, of Magnolia. Mrs. Steinfeldt was born in Indiana April 27, 1884.

Mr. Steinfeldt is a member of the Luverne fire department, of which he was the chief in 1906. Fraternally he is affiliated with the K. P. lodge, and he is a member of the Episcopal church. He owns his shop and residence property at Oakley and Luverne streets, which is known as the old Luverne hospital property.

ARNOLD SCHNECKLOTH (1895) is a Springwater township farmer who has resided in Rock county since he was a lad eleven years of age. The son of Carl and Mollie (Johansen) Schneckloth, natives of Germany, he was born in Scott county, Iowa, October 15, 1884. In 1895 the family arrived in Rock county, settling in Mound township, where our subject received his schooling. In 1906 he commenced farming for himself, and two years later rented his present farm, the northeast quarter of section 25, Springwater township, which he successfully conducts.

In Vienna township, on March 13, 1907, Mr. Schneckloth was married to Martha Mann, who was born July 3, 1889, the daughter of Joe and Dora (Jarhardt) Mann, now residents of South Dakota. One child, Minnie, was born to this union, on March 14, 1908. Mr. and Mrs. Schneckloth are members of the German Lutheran church.

PHILIP C. ORDUNG (1907) has owned and farmed the northeast quarter of section 23, Luverne township, since 1907. Mendota, LaSalle county, Illinois, is the place of his nativity, which occurred April 24, 1866. His parents, Conrad and Dora (Neischer) Ordung, natives of Germany, came to this country in 1840 and settled in Mendota, Illinois, where the father followed the trade of carpenter.

who is sixty-eight years of age. They were the parents of eight children.

George Pautsch was married in Crawford county, Wisconsin, on March 22, 1900, to Minnie Lill, who was born in Crawford county January 24, 1879. They had three children, Clara, Leona and Lawrence. The family are members of the German Lutheran church.

EARL S. LESLIE (1888), a farmer of Beaver Creek township, has lived in that precinct since he was three years of age. He is a native of Tama county, Iowa, where he was born October 4, 1885. His parents, H. S. and Jenetta (Colaw) Leslie, now live in Luverne.

Earl accompanied his parents to Rock county in 1888. For a few years the family lived on rented farms in Beaver Creek township, but when our subject was a child his father bought the farm now conducted by the son, the southeast quarter of section 3, and upon that place Earl has ever since lived. He received a country school education and until 1909 worked for his father on the farm. Then he married, rented the home place, and has since conducted it to his own account. The farm is well improved.

At Luverne, on October 6, 1909, our subject was married to Fern Story, who was born in Lyon county, Minnesota, June 5, 1889. She is the daughter of Albert Lee and Sarah Elizabeth (Southwick) Story. Her father resides in northern Minnesota; her mother is dead.

ELI LEECH (1903), a farmer and stock raiser of Mound township, is a Pennsylvanian by birth and breeding. He was born at Gettysburg June 27, 1867. His father, Elijah Leech, was born in York county, Pennsylvania, of Irish parentage, and died in 1893 at the age of fifty-two years. He served for four and one-half years with the Pennsylvania Reserves in the mighty sectional struggle. He fought in many of the memorable battles of the war and for six months was confined in Libbey prison. After the war he engaged in agricultural pursuits; then for a number of years prior to his death he drove a hack

over the historic Gettysburg battle field for tourists. The mother of our subject, Elizabeth (Mollison) Leech, still resides at Gettysburg, her birthplace. She comes from old Pennsylvania Dutch stock.

Up to the time of his father's death, the life of Eli Leech was passed in Gettysburg and vicinity. He was educated in the schools of his home town, at Two Taverns and White Run. As a boy of sixteen he became a coal miner, was so employed at Reading three years, and at Shamokin two years. For eight years thereafter he assisted his father in his Gettysburg hack business.

On leaving the scenes of his birth, Mr. Leech's first location was at York, Pennsylvania, where he was employed for five years in the machine shop of the York Manufacturing company. He then turned west and in 1898 established a home in Ogle county, Illinois, near Dixon, where he engaged in farming until coming to Rock county five years later. He farmed rented land in Denver township, two miles northwest of Hardwick, where he was located until the spring of 1910, when he moved to Mound township, his present home. Mr. Leech farms 240 acres on sections 25 and 26. He is a member of the Lutheran church.

Eli Leech was married in 1891, at Littlestown, Pennsylvania, to Annie Kunz, who was born near Emmetsburg, in the same state, in 1870. Seven children have been born to these parents, as follows: Lulu, born January 11, 1892; Lilly, born October 18, 1893; Charles, born October 9, 1898; Alice, born February 21, 1901; Ruth, born June 15, 1905; Rosie, born October 11, 1907; and Mary, born May 15, 1909.

ALVIN A. COOK (1901), a blacksmith and machinist of Luverne, is a native of the old Pine Tree state, and his birth occurred July 3, 1871, at Pittsfield, Maine. There were three other sons in the family, Charles, Alton, Sidney and Alfie, whose parents are N. H. and Martha (Adams) Cook, also natives of Maine. They were early day settlers of Nobles county, taking a homestead in Leota township in 1876, where they have lived ever since. N. H.

Cook is the owner of a half section of land.

During infancy Alvin moved with his parents to Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, and thence to Eau Claire, and at the age of nine years to Nobles county. After securing an elementary education he was for several years a student at the state university, taking special courses in engineering, butter-making and veterinary science. Until after his twenty-eighth birthday Mr. Cook was for the most part an assistant to his father in the management of the Leota township farm, devoting his attention to threshing in the fall months. On various occasions he was employed in certain St. Paul machine shops and was on the road for Wood Bros. several seasons.

After entirely abandoning the life of the farm, Mr. Cook was employed by the Rust-Owen Lumber company at Drummond, Wisconsin, as a fireman on the logging road maintained by that firm. He also represented the Geiser Manufacturing company as their agent and machine expert. On October 27, 1901, our subject moved to Luverne and established his present machine and blacksmithing business. He has a large shop and a complete equipment for handling satisfactorily the most intricate work in his particular line, boiler making, general machine work and repairing and horse shoeing.

In Luverne, on January 15, 1901, Mr. Cook was married to Alice Ramsey, a Canadian by birth, and the daughter of Johnson Ramsey, of Vienna township. A daughter, Marrel A., was born to these parents on May 11, 1909. Mr. Cook holds membership in the Masonic and Modern Woodmen lodges.

PERCY A. STORY (1906) farms the north half of section 14, Beaver Creek township, and raises stock to a considerable extent. He is a native son of Minnesota and was born in Lyon county January 20, 1884. His father, Albert L. Story, born in Wisconsin, is a resident of Otter Tail county, this state; his mother, Sarah E (Southwick) Story, a Pennsylvanian by birth, died May 12, 1900.

Eight years after the birth of our subject the Story family moved to Yellow

Medicine county, Minnesota, and four years later to Otter Tail county. In those localities Percy acquired a common school education. In 1902 he left the protection of the parental roof, and from that time he has been a molder of his own fortune. For four years he was employed at farm labor in Minnehaha county, South Dakota, just over the line from Rock county, of which he became a resident in 1906. He rented land several years before locating on his present place in the spring of 1908. Fraternally Mr. Story is affiliated with the M. W. A. of Luverne, and the A. O. U. W. and the Yeomen lodges of Beaver Creek.

The marriage of Percy A. Story to Ethel Jennings was solemnized in Luverne on September 15, 1908. Mrs. Story is a daughter of William T. Jennings, of Hardwick, and is a native of Illinois. To these parents were born a daughter, Lillie Fern, on April 15, 1909, and a baby boy, on April 29, 1910.

JOHN McLEISH (1901) is a representative business man of Magnolia, who is known throughout the adjoining territory as the reliable dealer in farm implements, wagons, buggies and hardware. A native of Columbia county, Wisconsin, he was born August 9, 1864, and on his father's farm he passed the greater part of the first twenty-two years of his life. He had made frequent visits to Nobles county, and in 1893 he bought a farm in Lismore township, which he conducted until 1901. That year he moved to Magnolia. Until 1905 he was engaged principally in teaming; then he established the implement business in which he has been eminently successful. During April, 1908, Mr. McLeish in partnership with A. W. Bird purchased the Grif-fith stock of hardware, which has been conducted in connection with the original business.

The parents of our subject were William and Jane (Thompson) McLeish, natives of Scotland, the former of Perth shire and the latter of the Sterling shire. Both came to America when young and were married in Columbia county, Wisconsin, in 1854. Mr. and Mrs. McLeish were among the first to settle in Caledonia township of the county mentioned and that was their home until

called by death. The father died in 1878 at the age of fifty-six years and the mother in 1907 after attaining the ripe old age of eighty-three. They were the parents of five children, as follows: Eliza (Mrs. Thomas McLean), of Nobles county; William, who resides on the old farm in Wisconsin; Maggie (Mrs. James Towers), of Wisconsin; Andrew, of Turtle Lake, North Dakota; John, of this sketch.

Mary Marshall, a native of Columbia county, Wisconsin, and an old school mate of John McLeish, became his wife on February 22, 1893. Mrs. McLeish was born August 17, 1865, and is the daughter of David S. and Isabelle (Tennant) Marshall, the latter of whom is deceased.

During his residence in Lismore township Mr. McLeish served for many years as a member of the township board of supervisors and since moving to Magnolia has been an active member of the village council. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen lodge.

CHARLES C. DAVIDSON (1904), of Luverne, is the eldest son of J. A. Davidson, proprietor of the Central house in Rock county's hub. His mother, Rose M. Davidson, is a native of Portage, Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Davidson were married at Adrian, Minnesota, and are the parents of the following named children: Charles C., Maud M. (Mrs. Bert Henton), of Beaver Creek; Grace, Bernice, Fred and Harry. One son, Alton J., died during the summer of 1909 at the age of twenty-one.

Charles is a native of Nobles county and was born January 30, 1881. At the age of ten years he moved with his parents to Bryant, South Dakota, and three years later to Pipestone. He was educated in the public schools of the two places mentioned. While in Pipestone he assisted in his father's restaurant, and in 1902 moved to Trosky to accept a position with the Davenport Elevator company. He was a fireman on the Great Northern railroad between Willmar and St. Paul for a short period and after that was employed in the cement works at Luverne. He resumed railroad work after a year, for awhile on the Great Northern, then on the Omaha. Of late

years he has been employed at the Luverne Pressed Brick plant.

At Adrian on October 7, 1907, Mr. Davidson was married to Minnie J. Speers, a native of Rock county, born December 27, 1891, and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Speers, of Luverne. Two children have been born to these parents: Vivian G., born August 4, 1908, and a son, born March 19, 1910.

CARL STROEH (1902) farms the whole of section 36, Springwater township. He is a native German and was born in the province of Schleswig-Holstein October 16, 1882. He is the youngest in a family of four sons and one daughter born to George and Margretta (Schmidt) Stroeh.

The father of Carl Stroeh died when our subject was seven years of age. He came the same year with his mother to America and located with her at Reinbeck, Iowa, where he was educated and grew to manhood. He worked out for a number of years before coming to Rock county in 1902. Two years later he rented his present extensive tract of productive land and has prospered in its cultivation. Mr. Stroeh is a member of the Odd Fellows and Modern Woodmen orders. He is unmarried and makes his home with his mother.

HERMAN WIESE (1884) is a business man of Hardwick who has made Rock county his home for the past twenty-seven years. He is the son of Mathias and Anna (Bandt) Wiese, both deceased. The father was killed in an accident in Germany in March, 1881, and the mother died during the month of June, 1887, in Springwater township. Herman is one of a family of five sons, the other four being John, James, Carl and Julius, the latter two being twins. All the children came to the United States together.

Our subject was born in Germany December 3, 1867, and spent his boyhood days on his father's farm in the land of the kaiser. In February, 1883, he arrived in the United States and went at once to Durant, Cedar county, Iowa, where he lived a year. March, 1884, marks the advent of Mr. Wiese to Rock county. For three years

he was employed on different farms in Springwater township, and then in 1889 he set up in farming for himself, renting land on section 3, Springwater. In 1896 he became the owner of the land in question and farmed the place several years. He then sold the land but invested in another farm in Rose Dell township, which he conducted until 1909. In that year he traded the Rose Dell farm for the R. A. Heckt stock of general merchandise and implements and the buildings which housed them, and since then he has made his home in Hardwick. He is a member of the Odd Fellows lodge and of the German Lutheran church.

The date of the marriage of Herman Wiese to Anna Hemme was November 30, 1889. Mrs. Wiese was born in Germany April 21, 1866. Three children have been born to them: Louis M., born December 6, 1890; Maggie, born April 11, 1892; and Anna, born December 23, 1893.

NICK BENDT (1898) has been a Springwater township resident for thirteen years. He was born in Holstein, Germany, June 8, 1879, the son of Henry and Dora (Schmidt) Bendt. Nick was a child five years of age when he crossed the Atlantic with his parents and made settlement in the new world. He passed his youth on his father's farm in Scott county, Iowa, and received an education in the district school near by. He commenced working as a farm laborer at the age of eighteen, and the year following he came to Rock county. He worked out until the spring of 1910, when he rented the east half of the northeast quarter of section 19, Springwater township, land he continues to farm.

Mr. Bendt was united in marriage in Luverne on March 24, 1910, to Ella Bonne. Mrs. Bendt is the daughter of George and Agnes (Schmidt) Bonne, both natives of the fatherland.

GUS H. MORK (1902), is the proprietor of the pool and billiard hall in the village of Kenneth, where he has been engaged in business for nine years. He was born in Lincoln county, South Dakota, May 21, 1873, the son of Halvor O. and Ingri (Ode) Mork, both of whom were natives of Nor-

way. The parents of our subject immigrated to the United States in 1867, making settlement for a number of years in Winneshiak county, Iowa, and then establishing a home in Lincoln county, South Dakota, where Halvor O. Mork still lives at the age of sixty-eight years. Mrs. Mork died in 1905.

Gus H. Mork resided on the Lincoln county farm of his birth until twenty-six years of age and was educated in the district school of the home precinct. In 1900 he moved to East Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and there entered upon a business career. He was a general merchant of that place for two years, leaving there to establish a residence in Kenneth, then a town in the second year of its existence. For seven years, in partnership with his brother, Otto H. Mork, our subject was engaged in the general merchandise business. In 1907 the store was sold and Mr. Mork engaged in his present line of business. He deals in tobacco, cigars and soft drinks and buys and ships cream.

Mr. Mork was married in Rock county February 23, 1906, to Marie Remme, who was born January 1, 1887, the daughter of two early settlers of the county, Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Remme, of Battle Plain township. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Mork: Gladys, born January 30, 1907; Hazel, born January 5, 1909; and a son, born December 28, 1910.

JOHN E. MCKISSON (1878), of Beaver Creek, has spent all but the first twelve years of his life as a resident of Rock county. He was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, April 19, 1866, and came with his parents to Rock county in 1878. His father homesteaded in Beaver Creek township, and on the home farm John passed his youth and attended the near by district school. After his father's death in 1885, our subject with his mother and brothers moved to a farm of their own, a mile west of the original farm. He lived here until 1902 and then moved to Beaver Creek village, which has since been his home. He was variously employed during the first three years but of late has been a bartender in a saloon which passed into the

hands of his brother in April, 1909. He also takes care of his farming interests.

John E. McKisson is the son of John R. and Polly (McDermott) McKisson, natives of Scotland and Butler county, Pennsylvania, respectively. They were married in Meadville, Pennsylvania, and in 1854 came west and located in Decorah, Iowa. The entire trip was made by stage. Two years later the family moved to Fillmore county, Minnesota. Mr. McKisson was the proprietor of a blacksmith shop in the village of Carmony for a number of years and later was engaged in farming. Rock county was his home from 1878 to the time of his death on February 25, 1885, aged sixty-six years. Mrs. McKisson died April 18, 1908. They were the parents of two sons and two daughters, as follows: William H., John E., Nina (Mrs. J. W. Foster), who died at Alberta, Minnesota, April 6, 1909; and Jennie (Mrs. C. H. Morse), of Madison, South Dakota.

HALSTEN M. MOEN (1879) is a contractor of cement work in the village of Hills and dates his residence in Rock county from 1879. A Norwegian by birth, he was born July 14, 1857, in Valdres. He is the son of Michael and Gertrude (Moen) Grundahl, both deceased, the latter dying in Hills in 1905.

The father of Halsten died when our subject was a child of two years, following which he was taken to live in the family of his grandfather Moen, from whom he took the surname Moen. Coming to the United States with his mother at the age of nine, he located at Decorah, Iowa. In that city and in the country near by our subject grew to manhood.

Arriving in Rock county at the age of twenty-one he located in Martin township, working for five years as a laborer on different farms. Pipestone county was the scene of his operations for the next fourteen years. He filed on a homestead claim in Elmer township, on which he proved up and engaged in farming for the period mentioned. In 1894, retiring from the farm, he removed to Hills, where he has since continued to reside. He is engaged in the business of work in cement. A large share of the cement walks in the town were put

in by Mr. Moen. For a term of three years Mr. Moen served as a member of the village council of Hills.

At St. James, Minnesota, on the ninth of June, 1883, Mr. Moen was married to Mary Davis, the daughter of Jorgen and Ingeborg Davis. She was born September 10, 1858, at Grand Rapids, Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Moen are members of the Synod Norwegian Lutheran church of Hills.

WILLIAM HUMPHREY (1894) has been a resident of Beaver Creek township for the past seventeen years. He first saw the light of day in Washington county, Kentucky, on the first day of August, 1848. His parents, Joe and Mary (Richardson) Humphrey, were also natives of Kentucky.

Eight years after his birth, William accompanied his parents in a removal to Illinois, where he lived until 1887. He was educated in the district schools and afterwards engaged in farming. In the year last mentioned, with his family, he established a residence in Hyde county, South Dakota, and remained there until coming to Rock county in 1894. The following year he rented his present Beaver Creek township farm, the northwest quarter of section 32. Mr. Humphrey and family are members of the Presbyterian church.

Our subject was united in marriage in 1881, while still a resident of Illinois, to Elizabeth Jenkins. The following named children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Humphrey: James, William L., Arthur B., Everett, Earnest, Eldridge, May, Ethel, Elizabeth and Maud. One son, Eldridge, and a daughter, Ethel, are dead.

ED. GABEL (1902) is a progressive farmer of Mound township. He is the son of Henry and Victoria (Segenfuss) Gabel, who came from Germany at an early date and settled near Darlington, Lafayette county, Wisconsin, where the subject of this biography was born December 8, 1875.

In his earlier years Ed. attended the district schools of his native county, and at the age of thirteen he commenced to do the work of a man on the home farm. With the exception of three months spent as an employe of the Stover Windmill company,

at Freeport, Illinois, his whole life has been spent in agricultural pursuits. His career in Rock county dates from 1902. He worked through the summer of that year near Magnolia, returning to his Wisconsin home to spend the winter. He was on the ground in Rock county the following spring and has never since left it. He rented and moved on his present place, the northeast quarter of section 30, Mound, in 1905.

Mr. Gabel is a married man. He was joined in the bonds of matrimony to Bertha Brandenburg at Luverne on November 27, 1907. Mrs. Gabel was born February 6, 1882, and is the daughter of Henry and Tersie (Dill) Brandenburg, of Luverne. An adopted daughter, Irene DeRose, an orphan from the state public school, has been received into the home. The child was born June 20, 1898.

FRED WALLENBERG (1900), farmer of Beaver Creek township, is a native German and was born in Bromberg September 30, 1856. He is the son of John and Florentina Wallenberg, both of whom passed away in the fatherland.

Fred received a common school training in his native land and resided on the home farm until after his twenty-third birthday. Then he came to America and located in La Crosse county, Wisconsin, and there he resided twenty years. He was engaged in farming most of that time, but for a period was employed in construction work on the old B. C. R. & N. railroad, and was a participant in the great strike of 1895. In 1900 Mr. Wallenberg moved with his family to Rock county. For six years thereafter he farmed in Martin township, and since then has resided on his present farm, the northeast quarter of section 6, Beaver Creek township, which he rented for a term of five years.

Mr. Wallenberg is a man of family. He was married in Wisconsin on September 2, 1883, to Bertha Hoffman, who was born in Germany May 19, 1864. Mrs. Wallenberg is the daughter of Earnest and Minnie (Wolf) Hoffman. The former parent died in Germany and the latter in La Crosse county, Wisconsin, in 1907, at the age of seventy-seven years. To Mr. and Mrs. Wallenberg have been born fifteen children, all

but three of whom are living. The deceased children were: Herman, born May 1, 1883, died July 23, 1884; Ernest, born July 29, 1884, died April 20, 1888; Gusta, born August 18, 1889, died the same week. The living children are: Minnie L., born November 8, 1885; William L., born October 8, 1886; Adolph, born October 26, 1887; Charley, born October 18, 1891; Ed, born June 3, 1893; George, born December 27, 1894; Fred, born April 15, 1895; John, born September 5, 1897; August, born May 31, 1899; Lydia, born January 24, 1901; Clara, born March 10, 1902; and Rosa, born March 14, 1905. The family are members of the German Lutheran church.

HENRY OTTO (1909) is the landlord of Hardwick's popular hostelry, the Commercial hotel. He was born in Germany November 3, 1869, and is the son of William and Lena Otto, who came to the United States from Germany in 1880. Mr. Otto lives in Aspinwall, Iowa; his wife is deceased.

Henry Otto of this review was eleven years of age when he accompanied his parents to the United States and to Aspinwall, Crawford county, Iowa, where the family residence was established. He attended the schools of his home town and later assisted with the work on his father's farm, to which the family had moved. At the age of twenty-two years he married and commenced farming for himself on rented land in Crawford county. He remained there until 1907 and then went to Day county, South Dakota, where he was a farmer for two years. In the fall of 1909 Mr. Otto arrived in Hardwick and became the owner of the Commercial hotel. Since coming into his hands the property has been greatly improved and made first-class in every respect.

Mr. Otto was married in Shelby county, Iowa, on May 27, 1892, to Christina Munson, who was born in Germany and who came to this country in 1891. Seven children have been born to this union, the first born, Willie, dying in infancy. The names of the living children are Freda, Johanna, Herman, Freddy, Henry and Robert. Mr. Otto holds membership in the Odd Fellows and Modern Woodmen lodges of Manning, Iowa.

WILLIAM DOLGE (1900) has for eleven years been a resident of Rock county and a farmer of Rose Dell township. He was born in Germany the second of May, 1866, and two years later came to this country with his parents, Joseph and Maty (Rabe) Dolge. The family located in Benton county, Iowa, where the father bought land and where our subject was reared and educated. William commenced farming rented land for himself in 1890, and ten years later he made settlement in Rock county. He farmed on section 2, range 47, Rose Dell township, until 1906, since which time he has rented and been established on his present place, the northeast quarter of section 26. Mr. Dolge is a member of the German Lutheran church and of the I. O. O. F. lodge.

Our subject was married in Iowa on April 1, 1890, to Annie Schnitker, who was born January 2, 1867, the daughter of John Schnitker. Eleven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Dolge, named as follows: Amanda, William, Lydia, John, Mary, Albert, Clarence, Catherine, Dorthia, Anna and Walter.

JOSEPH RISS (1903), the owner of a well improved farm in Clinton township, is the son of Henry and Caroline (Whaler) Riss, natives of Germany and early settlers in the country adjoining the city of Streator, Illinois. It was on his father's farm in that locality that Joseph was born on Christmas day in 1860.

His whole life, up to the time of his coming to Rock county in 1903, was lived in and around Streator. He attended the district schools and at an early age began to be of invaluable service to his father on the farm. At the age of twenty-three our subject rented a portion of his father's land and set up in farming for himself. Later he bought the same land, which he retained until 1902. Disposing of his holdings, he moved to Rock county and purchased the northwest quarter of section 28 and the southeast quarter of section 21, his present home in Clinton township.

Mr. Riss was married at Ottawa, Illinois, in February, 1885, to Sophia Funk, daughter of Fred and Sophia Funk, natives of Germany, who now make their home with

Mrs. Riss in Clinton township. The following are the children in the Riss family: Arthur H., born January 15, 1887; Emma M., born July 4, 1888; Walter J., born November 2, 1889; Clara L., born May 24, 1894; Erwin F., born May 1, 1896; Joseph H., born December 23, 1900; Lawrence B., born June 15, 1906. Mr. Riss is an active church worker and is a trustee of the German Evangelical congregation at Steen.

HAAGEN O. TUFF (1874) is one of Martin township's most successful and prosperous farmers and since the days of the sod shanties and grasshoppers one of those instrumental in bringing about the growth and development of the township to its present day prosperity. In Grans Prestegjeld, Hadeland, Norway, on August 16, 1851, Mr. Tuff was born, the son of Ole and Bertha Tuff, both of whom are buried in the old country.

Haagen O. Tuff lived in his native land, attended the common schools, and worked on a farm until coming of age. He arrived in the United States during the month of November, 1872, and located in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he was married and lived for one and one-half years.

In the spring of 1874 his career in Rock county began. In company with B. E. Rossum, he made the journey overland in an ox cart from eastern Minnesota, and the two gentlemen located in Martin township. Mr. Tuff bought the homestead right to the southwest quarter of section 32 from Knudt H. Knudtson, the property costing him about \$200. His finances were at a very low ebb and the young settler could pay but a meager fraction of the price of the claim and was forced to go into debt for the balance.

In order to make both ends meet during the first few years he walked to Lyon county, Iowa, fifteen miles from home, and hired out as a laborer.

A small sod shanty and sod stable were built on the open prairie, and this was for five years the habitation of the hopeful settler and his young wife. Eighteen seventy-six, which always calls to memory the direful grasshopper scourge, was a disastrous year. Mr. Tuff (and he was but one out of hundreds) harvested only five bushels of

wheat to the acre from that season's crop. Those days are now past and with them all hardship. Today Mr. Tuff is the owner of a farm that is a model for the progressive agriculturist. The old shanty, later replaced by a small frame dwelling, has since given way to a large and handsome residence, erected in 1901. The wild, raw prairie land has developed into a productive garden. A large roomy barn was put up in 1905, and now Mr. Tuff possesses one of the few cement silos to be found in the country. In all he owns and farms 240 acres of land and makes a special point of raising fine stock. In addition to his Rock county land, Mr. Tuff is the owner of a quarter section in Charles Mix county, South Dakota. He filed on the land as a timber claim in 1883, has improved the place and now rents it.

In Fillmore county, on the third of April, 1873, Mr. Tuff married Anne Hvattum, who was born in Norway May 27, 1853, and came to America in 1872. The following children have been born to them: Martineus, born July 26, 1874, died September 13, 1878; Gilbert, born May 30, 1878; Bernard, born June 2, 1881; Marius, born November 15, 1884; Alma, born June 5, 1891. The children are all living at home. At the present time Mr. Tuff and family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Hills. For a number of years he served as a director of school district No. 35 and at present holds the office of treasurer, this being his fifth term in such capacity.

ASHLEY STRAW (1900) has been a Rock county resident for the past eleven years and is now engaged in farming the northwest quarter of section 12, Mound township. A native of Vermont, he was born in West Bolton, Chittenden county, August 26, 1864. He is the son of Cyrus and Sally (Stearns) Straw, both of whom were born in New Hampshire. The former died April 28, 1892, but the latter is still living and resides at Jasper. Both the Straw and Stearns families are of Scotch-Irish descent.

Ashley was ten years of age when he departed from New England with his parents, who had determined to establish a new home in the west. The family located on a farm in Taylor county, Iowa, where it was our subject grew to manhood. He

left home in 1884 to seek his own fortune and for eleven years thereafter was a South Dakota farmer, residing for different periods of time in the counties of Beadle, Clark and Kingsbury. For three years following 1895, Mr. Straw farmed in Otter Tail and Todd counties, Minnesota. The summer after leaving that region was spent at Garretson, South Dakota. For the first year after locating in Rock county in 1900, he worked out in Rose Dell township, then for two years was a resident of Luverne. For the first part of that period he was employed in an elevator and later in the brick yard. Mr. Straw rented and has lived on his present farm since the fall of 1903.

In Clark county, South Dakota, on February 19, 1891, Ashley Straw was married to Christina Redl, who died January 23, 1895. Two children, Edward and Maggie, were born to this union. On May 29, 1901, in Luverne, he married Lulu Beers. Mrs. Straw was born in Luverne April 9, 1882, and was brought up in Beaver Creek township. They have two children: Nettie, born August 29, 1903; and Ralph, born January 6, 1906.

WILLIAM WINKLER (1910) has been an actual resident of Rock county for a comparatively short time, but for nearly twenty years previous to the spring of 1910, he was a well-known farmer and political leader in the adjoining county of Lyon, Iowa, and so was more or less conversant with Rock county interests. A native of Saxony, Germany, he was born May 13, 1850, the son of John J. and Steen Winkler. Both parents are buried in the old country.

William was reared on a farm in the fatherland and was eighteen years of age, when in 1868, he severed home ties and turned his eyes westward to the new world of opportunity. For the first eleven years in this country he was a resident of Cook county, Illinois, working out for a period, then as an independent farmer. His next move was to Ida county, Iowa, where he bought a farm and conducted the same for thirteen years, going from there to Lyon county in 1892. He bought his present Rock county land, 240 acres in section 35, Mound township, in October, 1909, and moved thereon the spring following. Mr. Winkler

is also the owner of two sections of land in southern Alberta, Canada.

While in Lyon county our subject was an extensive breeder of high grade stock. He served on the governing board of his home precinct, Garfield township, for sixteen years, and for seventeen years was a director of his school district. Mr. Winkler is a staunch republican and has rendered aid to his party on more than one notable occasion. He and his family are members of the Methodist church of Luverne.

William Winkler has been twice married. His first wife, Caroline Rudolph, whom he married in Indiana on January 12, 1872, died in Ida county, Iowa, in August, 1889. She was born in Germany on February 7, 1852. To this union were born eight children, all of whom are living and married. Their names follow: John, Annie, Hulda and Willie, all of Alberta, Canada; Christina, of South Dakota; Louisa, of Ida Grove, Iowa; Mary, of Oklahoma; and Frank, a doctor in South Dakota. In Sac county, Iowa, in December, 1890, Mr. Winkler was married to Mary Paper, who was born in Indiana February 7, 1866. These parents have seven children, all residing at home. They are Albert, Walter, Weslie, Esther, Luella, Herbert and Henry.

HARRY S. RODMAN (1903) is the owner of 200 acres of finely improved land in Luverne township. After a residence of eight prosperous years in the county, he has become firm in the belief that Rock county is the garden spot of the universe. He is a native of McLean county, Illinois, where he was born May 8, 1873, the son of Samuel and Josephine (Nelson) Rodman, both of whom hailed from the Buckeye state. The history of the Rodman family can be traced back to the year 1600.

Two years after his birth, Harry moved with his parents to Vermilion county, Illinois, which was his home for twenty-eight years, or until coming to Rock county in 1903. He was reared on a farm and assisted his father with the work on the home place until 1895, when he commenced farming for himself in Vermilion county. He bought his present farm in Luverne township in March, 1903, and has made it his home since that date. The place has been

thoroughly tiled, every foot is under cultivation, and it yields rich profits to its enterprising owner. The farm adjoining Mr. Rodman's sold recently for \$130 an acre. For three years our subject was a township supervisor.

At Hoopeston, Illinois, on February 13, 1898, Harry S. Rodman was united in marriage to Della Newburn, who was born in Woodford county, Illinois, January 10, 1876. The following four daughters have been born to this union: Jennie Ruth, born January 1, 1899; Josephine Ellen, born August 9, 1902; Alice Lucile, born June 6, 1907; and Florence May, born March 12, 1909.

JAMES HORNE (1893), manufacturer of and dealer in monuments, and ex-president of the Rock County Agricultural association, is a native of the county of Aberdeen, Scotland, and was born January 30, 1862. Until he was eighteen years of age he lived on his father's farm; then he began working at the stone cutter's and stone mason's trade, at which he was employed until 1886.

In the year last mentioned Mr. Horne came to America and located at Quincy, Massachusetts. From that time until 1891 he worked at his trades in the following named towns: Quincy, Deadham, Springfield and Boston, in Massachusetts; New Britain and New London, in Connecticut, and in New York city. The next year was spent working at his trade in Denver, Colorado; then, after visiting relatives in Minnesota, he returned to his native land. There he was married, and in March, 1893, he returned to America and located in Luverne. In the fall of the same year he engaged in the monument business, in which he has ever since been engaged. He has built up a splendid business and draws trade from a large territory. He has a well equipped plant for the manufacture of marble and granite monuments, it being equipped with a pneumatic device with which can be done all classes of cutting and engraving. Mr. Horne was president of the Rock County Agricultural association in 1909 and 1910. He is a member of the M. W. A. lodge and has held various chairs in that order.

Mr. Horne is the son of George and Christina (Wilson) Horne, natives of Scotland, five generations of the family having been



FARM HOME OF H. O. TUFF, MARTIN TOWNSHIP



SHOP AND MONUMENT WORKS OF JAMES HORNE, LUVERNE

born on the same estate. There were eleven children in the family, of whom all grew to manhood and womanhood.

GUS H. STAFFLER (1902), a farmer of Battle Plain township, is a native of Manitowoc, Wisconsin, and was born September 11, 1869. His parents were Fred and Louisa (Prueter) Staffler, natives of Germany, who settled in Wisconsin in an early day.

At the age of seventeen Gus H. Staffler left the protection of the parental roof and went to Benton county, Iowa, where he was employed at farm labor five years. He then returned to Wisconsin for a year, and from there came direct to Rock county in 1902. He worked on a farm near Hardwick for a number of years, then established himself as an independent farmer. He rented the southeast quarter of section 30, Battle Plain, which is still his home. He later bought the southwest quarter of section 29, which he also farms. Mr. Staffler is one of the stockholders in the Farmers Elevator company of Hardwick. He is treasurer of school district No. 55 and is a member of the German Lutheran church.

In Luverne, on December 5, 1895, our subject was united in marriage to Agnes Thievoldt, a native of Benton county, Iowa. She was born April 23, 1879, and is the daughter of Earnest and Helam Thievoldt, both natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Staffler are the parents of the following three children: Lena, born September 3, 1896; Alfred, born March 10, 1901; and Anna, born June 17, 1905.

WILLIAM L. STRALOW (1903), proprietor of the Klondike livery barn of Luverne, was born in Germany October 31, 1871, the son of Carl and Mary Stralow. When two years old he accompanied his parents to America and resided with them in Will county, Illinois, until their death, his father dying in 1875 and his mother in 1880. He received a common school education in Will county, and in the spring of 1881 accompanied his sisters to Buena Vista county, Iowa. There at an early age he began working out on farms, and after growing older he engaged in farming rented land,

which he followed nine years, part of the time in Cherokee county.

Mr. Stralow came to Rock county in 1903 and engaged in farming in Springwater township two years. He located in Luverne in 1905, bought the Klondike livery and feed barn, and has since conducted it. While residing in Cherokee county, Iowa, Mr. Stralow served as a director of school district No. 9, in Spring township. He is a member of Myrtle Lodge No. 67, I. O. O. F.

Our subject is the youngest member of the family. Two sisters, Louise Stralow and Mrs. Minnie Sodemann, reside in Luverne; another sister, Fina (Mrs. John Goos), lives in New Chicago, Illinois. Mr. Stralow is unmarried.

HANS J. SIERKS (1910) is one of the more recent arrivals attracted by the wonderful opportunities offered to the Rock county farmer. He moved from Iowa in 1910 and is now engaged in farming the southeast quarter of section 35 and the southwest quarter of section 36, Rose Dell township, land which he rents.

Hans is a native of Germany and was born in the hamlet of Heide, province of Schleswig-Holstein, on March 28, 1855. He is the son of Hans and Margretta (Clausen) Sierks, the former a farmer by occupation. Our subject attended the provincial schools, and after growing up assisted with the work on the home farm. He served in the German army three years. Following his discharge in 1880, he forsook native land to become an adopted son of Uncle Sam. His destination was Clinton county, Iowa, where he was employed at farm labor for a year; then he rented land and farmed in Crawford county. He returned to Clinton county, where he tilled the soil continuously for twenty-two years.

While residing in Crawford county, Iowa, on the last day of July, 1883, Hans J. Sierks was married to Maria C. Pohlmann, a native of the same locality in Germany as her husband, where she was born July 15, 1856. Mrs. Sierks is a daughter of Carl A. and Anna M. (Evers) Pohlmann, both of whom are buried in the old country. This estimable couple celebrated their silver wedding anniversary Wednesday, July 31, 1908. The union has been blessed by the

birth of six daughters, namely: Emma C. (Mrs. William Gregersen), born April 30, 1884; Bertha H. W. (Mrs. Paul Brodersen), born May 11, 1887; Margrette E., born February 28, 1889; Anna A., born September 11, 1891; Helena A., born March 28, 1894; and Elfrieda M. S., born May 28, 1897.

HANS CHRISTIANSEN (1892) owns and farms the east half of the northeast quarter of section 2, Mound township, and in addition farms another eighty acres in the same section. He was born in Davenport, Iowa, November 20, 1870, the son of Claus and Johanna (Koos) Christiansen. The former parent, a native of Germany, came to the United States in 1860, and now lives in Stevens county, Minnesota. His mother, who was born in Davenport, is still living.

Our subject was reared on a farm in close proximity to Davenport and received his education in the public schools of that city. He was twenty-two years of age when he left Iowa and located with his parents in Rock county. He resided in Beaver Creek township for the first four years, then rented land in Kanaranzi township, for three years was on a farm belonging to Mrs. Bowers, then for five years on Henry Sundt's place, two miles south of Kanaranzi village. For two years thereafter he was a Springwater township farmer, then moved to his present farm in Mound. For two years Mr. Christeansen served as clerk of school district No. 64.

At Hardwick, on January 17, 1897, Hans Christiansen was married to Minnie Heiden, a native of Germany, who came to the United States in 1892. To these parents have been born the following two children: Hugo Walter, born November 29, 1897; and Erna Marie, born May 8, 1899.

ERNEST ZEMKE (1898), proprietor of the Oak cafe and billiard hall of Hills, has resided in that thriving Rock county village ever since the fall of 1910, but for twelve years prior to that time he resided in Pipestone county. He is the son of Henry and Dora Zemke, both of whom came early in life to this country from Germany. They were early settlers of Allamakee county, Iowa, where occurred the birth of

Ernest Zemke on July 8, 1886. To these parents have also been born five daughters: Martha Feldman, of Trosky; Alvina Ziegler, of Holland; Minnie Symons, of South Dakota; Lilly, and Carrie Titus, of Idaho; and three other sons, Henry, of South Dakota; George and Lester, of Idaho.

Two years after the birth of our subject the family moved to Osceola county, Iowa, and ten years later became residents of Pipestone county, where Henry Zemke became the owner of a half section of land on sections 11 and 14, Rock township. Ernest grew up on the home farm, which he rented and conducted for a year following the removal of his parents to their present home in the Snake river region of Idaho. The year previous to becoming a Hills business man Mr. Zemke farmed in Fountain Prairie township. Cigars, confectionery and soft drinks are sold and lunches served at the Oak cafe.

Pipestone is the place and March 16, 1908, the date of the marriage of Ernest Zemke to Belle Wilkinson. One daughter, Evelyn, was born to these parents February 24, 1910. Mr. Zemke is an Odd Fellow.

ANDREW J. NELSON (1909), farmer of Beaver Creek township, was born in Denmark May 2, 1870. His parents, Lars and Fredericka Nelson, are still living at advanced ages in the land of the Danes.

Andrew was sixteen years of age when he set sail from native shores to seek his fortune in the new world. On arriving in this country, he journeyed to Lyon county, Iowa, and for five years was located just over the border line from Rock county and only a short distance from the town of Steen. The two final years of his residence in Lyon county, Mr. Nelson farmed for himself, and on leaving that locality went to Brookings county, South Dakota, where he homesteaded and where he resided five and one-half years. On disposing of his right to the claim, he bought land near Valley Springs, South Dakota, again in close proximity to the Rock county line, this time on the west. Our subject disposed to his holdings in 1904 and spent the year following in Oklahoma, from which state he returned to Minnesota. He bought his present farm, the north half of section

24, range 47, Beaver Creek township, in the fall of 1908, and moved on to the place the following spring. This land he has since disposed of, and he vacated the premises in March, of the present year. He still owns a half section of choice land in Lyman county, South Dakota.

Andrew J. Nelson was married in May, 1894, to Annie Flesner, a native of Germany who came to this country at the age of six years. To these parents the following named children, three sons and six daughters, have been born: May, Pearl, Roy, Leonard, Elvina, Lulu, Lucile, Clara and Andrew. Lulu and Lucile are twins.

FRED BLOCKER (1894), of Kanaranzi township, the son of Christian and Minnie (Hartkop) Blocker, was born in Rock Island, Illinois, on February 17, 1868. The father died when Fred was six years of age.

Upon his parents' decease, the subject of this biography went to live with C. H. Gertz, a farmer near Davenport, Iowa. In the school near by he received his education and there he grew to manhood, the valued assistant of his guardian. His residence in Rock county dates from 1894. That year he rented and settled upon the southwest quarter of section 20, Kanaranzi township, and that has since been his home. He is one of the stockholders in the Farmers Elevator company of Kanaranzi. For five years he served school district No. 60 as one of its directors. He is a member of the German Lutheran church and of the M. W. A. lodge.

The date of Mr. Blocker's marriage in Davenport, Iowa, to Mary Wulf was February 22, 1894. Mrs. Blocker is a daughter of Claus and Margrette Wulf, of Davenport. Six children, four of whom are living, have been born to this union. Adele and Fred are deceased. The living children are Louis, Erwin, Roy and Matilda.

SVEN JOSEND AHL (1900), a farmer of Mound township, was born in the city of Bergen, Norway, September 19, 1876. The father of our subject was Hans Josendahl, a farmer, who died when his son was five years of age. His mother, Dordu (Josen-

dahl) Josendahl, still resides in the land of the Norse.

Sven was reared on a farm and educated in his native country, which was his home until departing for America in 1900, at the age of twenty-four. All of the eleven years he has now been an adopted son of Uncle Sam have been passed in Rock county. For the first three years he was employed at farm labor in Beaver Creek township, then for one summer he worked with the bridge crew on the Rock Island between Luverne and Grundy Center, Iowa. For some time thereafter he worked by the day at various agricultural pursuits, as a harvest hand, a thresher, a corn picker, etc. He then established himself as an independent tiller of the soil. He farmed in Beaver Creek township four years, in Luverne township for half that length of time, and since the spring of 1910 has rented his present place, half of section 11, Mound township. He raises considerable stock.

Mr. Josendahl was married in Luverne on March 24, 1905, to Anna Onerheim, the daughter of Engebret and Margaret Onerheim, of Beaver Creek township. She was born in Lee county, Illinois, February 25, 1884. Three children have blessed this union, named as follows: Mabel, born March 9, 1907; Henry, born August 17, 1908; and Orville, born February 8, 1910. The family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Beaver Creek township.

JAMES CROSTON (1910) is one of the more recent additions to the ranks of Rock county's prosperous agriculturists. His parents, John and Lettia (Patterson) Croston, natives of New York and Ireland, respectively, were early day settlers of Dubuque county, Iowa, where our subject was born July 25, 1867.

James Croston grew to mature years in the county of his birth. The education he received in the district schools was supplemented by a two years' course in the Cascade high school. In 1894 he moved to Plymouth county, Iowa, rented land near the city of LeMars, and farmed five years. He then located on a quarter section he had bought in Minnehaha county, South Dakota, only a few miles from the Minnesota line. Deciding to get within the borders

of the North Star state, he disposed of his holdings in Dakota and in the spring of 1910 located on his present farm, the northwest quarter of section 26, range 47, Springwater township. In Minnehaha county he served as a school director six years. He is a member of the M. W. A. lodge.

While still a resident of Plymouth county, on November 27, 1894, Mr. Croston was married to Mamie Kimmel, who was born May 14, 1870, and is a daughter of G. A. and Mary M. (Sibert) Kimmel. To this union have been born the following three children: George E., born September 11, 1895; Alvin J., born July 25, 1899; and Irene M., born May 13, 1903.

ALBERT A. MEYER (1909) is one of the more recent additions to the ranks of Beaver Creek township's enterprising farmers. He was born at Amity, Scott county, Iowa, on the tenth of March, 1876. His father, Peter Meyer, came to America from his native land of Germany at the age of eight years and has since then been a resident of Scott county. For a great many years he was a leading farmer of that Iowa county. He was married to Caroline Biesler, a native of Scott county and the mother of our subject.

Albert was reared on the farm of his father and received an education in the near by district school. At the age of twenty-two he began farming in Scott county on his own account, and two years later he entered upon a business career in the town of Amity. He conducted a general store at that point for several years, and on disposing of the same moved to the city of Davenport, which his employment was that of a grocery clerk. We next find him in the employ of a general merchant at Durant, Cedar county, Iowa, with whom he remained four years. In the spring of 1909 Mr. Meyer returned to his original avocation, came to Rock county and rented his present farm, the southeast quarter of section 5, Beaver Creek. He was appointed clerk of school district No. 44 in 1910. He belongs to the lodge of the K. P. order at Durant, Iowa.

Albert A. Meyer was united in marriage at Durant on November 1, 1906, to Ida Schlapkohl, who was born at Stockton,

Iowa, on April 4, 1878. By a former marriage Mrs. Meyer is the mother of two children, named Leona and Lloyd.

DANA M. BAER (1875), who conducts a distributing agency in Luverne, is a native of Kansas and was born July 19, 1874. When one year old he moved with his parents to Luverne and has practically made his home there ever since. He lived in Topeka, Kansas, from 1882 to 1885.

Dana secured his education in the public schools of Luverne and in the Kansas schools, attending his first school in the basement of the old Methodist church on Main street. He began working out at the age of fourteen years and was so employed until 1894, when he started in business for himself, opening a distributing agency in Luverne. Later he learned the printer's trade in the office of the Rock County News, being employed there eighteen months. For several years he was employed in hotels in different parts of the country—at Madison, Albert Lea, Watertown, Faribault and La Crosse. In 1908 Mr. Baer again engaged in the distributing business and has since maintained an office in Luverne.

The parents of our subject are Aaron and Mary Ann (Weber) Baer, natives of New York state. They moved to Kansas in the early seventies, engaged in farming several years, and then came to Rock county in 1875. They resided in Luverne until November 12, 1910, when they departed for Willow Springs, Missouri, where they will reside indefinitely.

ALBERT T. THOMPSON (1887) is one of Rock county's native sons and one of the younger of its progressive agriculturists. He is the son of those early Martin township settlers, Ole and Olena (Olson) Thompson, who homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 13, range 47. Norway is Ole Thompson's native land, while his wife is a product of the frontier days of Dakota. Albert is the oldest in the family of four sons and four daughters. The names of the others are Mary, Olia, Nettie, Tollof, Emma, Nels and Otto.

Our subject was educated in the dis-

trict schools of his native precinct and as a boy assisted with the manifold duties on the farm. At the age of seventeen he received his appointment as mail carrier on rural route No. 1, out from Hills, and efficiently served in that capacity six years. In the spring of 1910 he commenced farming and now works the southwest quarter of section 14, which he rents from Otto Paulson. He shares with his father in the ownership of the northwest quarter of section 11, range 47, which they bought in 1906.

Albert Thompson was married July 1, 1910, to Bergetha Jordahl, of Beaver Creek township. He is a member of the Synod Norwegian Lutheran church.

OLE J. LEIN (1892), a Rock county resident for the past nineteen years and a farmer of repute, is a native of Valdres, Norway, where he was born April 11, 1870, the son of John and Maret Lein, who still reside in the old country. Ole was twenty years of age when he severed home ties and journeyed across the Atlantic to the United States. He worked for two years at farm labor in Renville county, Minnesota, and in 1892 located in Rock county and commenced farming rented land. Since 1905 Mr. Lein has lived on and conducted a farm of his own, the northwest quarter of section 7, Martin township. He is the overseer of road district No. 37.

At Luverne, on November 14, 1896, our subject was married to Eliza Qualley. Mr. and Mrs. Lein are the parents of the following named children: Mabel, John, Jens, Enga and Eliza. The family are members of the Synod Norwegian Lutheran church.

HERMAN EKMAN (1897) has been engaged in the blacksmith, horse shoeing and wagon making business in Magnolia since the first of April, 1897. He is a native of Sweden and was born at Jankoping December 10, 1858. He is the son of John and Mary Ekman, both deceased, who were the parents of a family of eight children, of whom Herman was the first born.

Our subject received a fairly good education in the land of his birth. At the age of twelve he was apprenticed to a master

blacksmith, from whom he acquired a thorough knowledge of the trade, at which he worked in Sweden until he came to the United States in 1887. He located first at Cherokee, Iowa, where he was employed on the section and in the railroad shops for two years. For seven years thereafter he followed his occupation in Sioux City and in 1897 commenced his residence in Magnolia. The business he conducts was purchased from Christ Johnson. Mr. Ekman owns two residence properties in Magnolia besides his place of business. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church and of the Modern Woodmen lodge.

While a resident of Sioux City, on October 22, 1892, Mr. Ekman was married to Carolina Johnson, who was born in the same locality in Sweden as was her husband, on May 28, 1859. Mrs. Ekman came to this country in 1888. They have no children.

GUST CARL (1902) engages in farming on the northwest quarter of section 2, Magnolia township. He is a native of Illinois, having been born in Henry county on March 12, 1882. His father, Martin Carl, who was a native of Germany, died in Illinois about twenty-two years ago. His mother, Amelia (Janke) Carl, also died in Illinois.

Gust was reared on the Henry county farm and obtained his education in the district schools. Leaving home at the age of twenty, he commenced the battle of life for himself. The year of attaining that age, in 1902, he came to Rock county, which has since been his home, with the exception of two seasons spent in the harvest fields of North Dakota. He worked out for different farmers until 1908, when he rented his present location, the northwest quarter of section 2, and has been successful in its operation.

Mr. Carl was married November 6, 1908, in Sargent county, North Dakota, to Ella Noe, whose birthplace also is Henry county, Illinois. They have one child, Esther.

BEN HAGEDORN (1894) with his brother Louis was until recently the proprietor of a Hardwick saloon. He was born in Scott

county, Iowa, November 16, 1884, the son of Carl and Malme Hagedorn, natives of Germany. Both parents came to America in their younger days and after their marriage settled in Scott county, Iowa. In 1894 they moved to Rock county and settled on land purchased in Battle Plain township, where Mr. Hagedorn died January 18, 1909. His wife, the mother of our subject, continues to reside at Hardwick.

Ben Hagedorn of this sketch moved with his parents to Jackson county, Minnesota, when a lad five years of age. Five years later his residence in Rock county began. For five years he farmed rented land in Mound township, and for the same length of time he was a Battle Plain township farmer. In 1906 he settled in Hardwick. For three years he was employed as bartender in one of the saloons, engaging in the business for himself after May, 1909. Recently he has again engaged in agricultural pursuits.

Mr. Hagedorn was united in marriage at Luverne on January 6, 1909, to Marie Schuldt, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Schuldt, of Lake Wilson. One son, Lloyd, was born to these parents, November 7, 1909.

ADAM HOF SOMMER (1898), Denver township farmer and stock raiser, is a native German. He was born in the land of the kaiser November 3, 1875, the son of Henry and Christina (Schnell) Hofsommer. Adam attended the German common schools until he was fourteen years of age, then with his parents crossed the Atlantic to make settlement in the new world. The family resided on a farm near Dysart, Iowa, until 1898, moving that year to Pipestone county. Henry Hofsommer bought the southeast quarter of section 8, Elmer. In 1903 our subject rented the northwest quarter of section 4, Denver township, just over the line in Rock county, and still farms that land. Mr. Hofsommer is a breeder of Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs. He is a member of the German Evangelical church and the A. O. U. W. lodge.

At Dysart, Iowa, March 6, 1902, Mr. Hofsommer was married to Susan Schramser, who was born November 3, 1880, the daugh-

ter of Frank and Catherine (Kerst) Schramser, both natives of Germany. One son, Chris, was born to these parents, August 19, 1906.

JOHN S. PEDERSEN (1899) farms the north half of section 19, Luverne township. He was born in Christiansand, Norway, October 23, 1876, the son of Peter and Emma (Olson) Stredslund. Both parents died in the old country.

John resided on the farm of his birth until the first year of his manhood. Then, severing home ties, he crossed the Atlantic and became an adopted son of Uncle Sam. For the first two years after his arrival in this country he resided in Lyon county, Iowa, working at farm labor; then he crossed over the line into Rock county, which has since been his home. He has rented different places, but since 1908 has made his home on the land above described. Mr. Pedersen is unmarried.

WALTER E. JENNINGS (1904), who farms the southwest quarter of section 32, Vienna township, first saw the light of day in the town of Union Center, Illinois, March 17, 1882. Both his father and mother, L. F. and Electa (Rude) Jennings, were natives of Illinois and were of English descent. The former is now a merchant of Woodberry, Illinois; the latter died in 1894.

Walter was brought up in an atmosphere of trade and his early life was divided between attention to studies in the village schools and his father's stores, first at Union Center and later at Casey, Illinois. He was seventeen years of age when the father disposed of his business interests and began the life of a farmer in Ebert, Cumberland county, Illinois. Three years later our subject severed home ties, worked for two years at farm labor in Greenup, Illinois, and in 1904 found his way to Rock county. He secured employment in Beaver Creek township and so continued for two years. He was a mail weigher on the Omaha railroad for four months, then was absent a year near Fort Pierre, South Dakota, where he filed on a homestead claim, upon which he commuted and returned to Rock county. He farmed in Beaver Creek

township until the spring of 1910, when he moved to his present location.

At Greenup, Illinois, on February 7, 1902, the marriage ceremony making Walter E. Jennings and Carrie Patrick man and wife was solemnized. Mrs. Jennings was born in Greenup July 14, 1886, and is the daughter of William and Emma (Templeton) Patrick. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Jennings: Maud, Homer, Lloyd and Harold.

HENRY WILLEMS (1907), a Springwater township farmer, is a native of Ertvelde, Belgium, where he was born August 9, 1859, the son of Ben and Emelie (Delater) Willems. He was thirty-four years of age when, in 1893, he crossed the Atlantic with his family to make settlement in the new world. For eleven years Mr. Willems was a coal miner in Henry county, Illinois. Then he rented land and commenced farming in that county and continued so until 1907, when he arrived in Rock county and rented the land he now farms, the northwest quarter of section 6, range 47.

Our subject was married in Belgium on November 6, 1884, to Steffney DeWolf, who was born June 13, 1858. The following named children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Willems: Ella, born September 26, 1885; Mary, born October 5, 1886, died May 10, 1887; Kamel, born October 29, 1887; Serfean, born July 27, 1889; Ademon, born November 27, 1890; Amel, born February 7, 1893; Gertrude, born December 22, 1897, died October 2, 1899; and Frank, born January 15, 1901.

MATHIAS O. PETTERSON (1902), of Rose Dell township, first saw the light of day in Vaagens, Prestejeld Lofotden, Norway, on February 24, 1873. His parents were Peter and Marn (Svenson) Lyngver, both of whom are deceased. The former died in 1907 and the latter in 1908.

Our subject had the advantages of a common school education in the land of his birth. With the exception of the last three years in Norway, Mr. Petterson assisted with the work on the home farm. The period of three years mentioned he worked out for other farmers. He immigrated with

his family to America in 1902, coming direct to Rock county. He worked out in Beaver Creek township for one year, farmed a year in Pipestone county, and then rented and settled on his present place, the southeast quarter of section 17, Rose Dell township. He is a member of the Synod Norwegian Lutheran church.

Mr. Petterson was married in the land of the Norse on September 24, 1897, to Alexandria Johnson, who was born September 18, 1872, to Johan and Hansine (Gulbransen) Anderson. To Mr. and Mrs. Petterson have been born the following children: Katinka O. M., born November 16, 1897; John H., born May 9, 1901; Mina P., born August 18, 1906; and Erling H., born November 22, 1908.

AMIL KRANTZ (1909) has been a resident of Rock county only a few years, but in that time he has become convinced of the great possibilities accruing to the industrious farmer from the cultivation of its fertile soil. Our subject was born in Germany on the twenty-ninth day of July, 1874. Three years later he accompanied his parents, August and Verenicka Krantz, to America, the family settling near Richmond, in Walworth county, Wisconsin. There Amil attended the district schools and grew up on his father's farm. From his very early boyhood he was engaged in different kinds of farm work and has continued to follow that vocation up to the present time.

He was married in Richmond, Wisconsin, in 1908 to Carrie M. Olson, the daughter of Cornelius and Anna Olson. The former is a native of Norway, while Wisconsin is the birthplace of the mother. Mrs. Krantz was born February 13, 1874. One child, Iola S., was born to them on March 26, 1909. The southeast quarter of section 14, range 47, Martin township, which is now the family home, was willed to Mrs. Krantz by an uncle, Jens Olson; who was also the sponsor at her baptism.

Jens Olson, born in Kragre, Norway, came to America in 1853 and settled near Whitewater, Wisconsin. In 1873 he journeyed westward to Rock county, Minnesota, and homesteaded the land previously described. He never married and lived a

solitary life on his farm until his death, which occurred in September, 1903. The year preceding his death, Mrs. Krantz, then Carrie Olson, came from Wisconsin to keep house and care for her uncle, which she did faithfully up to the time of the old gentleman's decease. There was always a bond of attachment existing between uncle and niece and the old homestead became her property, the gift of the fond relative.

WILLIAM HINZ (1900) has resided in Rock county for the past eleven years and is now engaged in farming the northwest quarter of section 22, Denver township. His parents, Claus and Sophia (Stamann) Hinz, also reside in Denver township. William was born in Tama county, Iowa, October 5, 1885, and three years later accompanied his parents to Nobles county, Minnesota. The family lived for eleven years on a farm north of Adrian and in 1900 moved over to Rock county. Our subject lived with his folks on section 12, Rose Dell township, until renting his present place, in March, 1910, and commencing his career as an independent farmer.

At Luverne, on November 10, 1909, William Hinz was united in marriage to Alvina Heckt, also a native of Tama county, Iowa, where she was born January 9, 1883. She is the daughter of Claus Heckt, of Luverne. Mr. and Mrs. Hinz are members of the German Lutheran church of Hardwick.

DAVID S. WALTER (1897) is the proprietor of a Hills barber shop. He was born in Adams county, Pennsylvania, March 8, 1873, and is the son of Conrad B. and Martha (Stoner) Walter, both natives of the Keystone state. The father of our subject is still living in Adams county but Martha Walter died a number of years ago.

David lived on his father's farm and attended the district school near by until he attained his majority. At the age of twenty-one he left home to go to Chicago, and in that city he learned the barber's trade and worked at it for a number of years, or until 1897, when he moved to Hills and opened a shop of his own. Two years later he bought the building which at pres-

ent houses his business. He operates a two-chair shop and has a large patronage. Mr. Walter is also the owner of residence property in the village. He is a member of the Hills fire department.

At Sioux Falls, on May 22, 1901, David S. Walter was united in marriage to Martha Yestness, who was born in Norway January 12, 1877, and came to this country when sixteen years of age. She is the daughter of Torbjarn and Martha Yestness. The former is deceased. Mrs. Yestness is still a resident of Norway.

MIKE P. PENDERGAST (1908), deceased, was for two years prior to his death a Clinton township farmer. Lasalle, Illinois, was the county of his birth, which event occurred November 21, 1864. His parents, Martin and Napy (Welch) Pendergast, were natives of the Emerald isle and came to this country when children. Martin Pendergast, whose occupation was that of a farmer, died in Illinois April 30, 1907. The mother died the year previous, on August 17.

When in his first year, Mike Pendergast moved with his parents to Livingston county, of his native state, and that was his home until 1908, the year of his arrival to Rock county. The life of the average country boy was his. After finishing his education in the near by district school, he assisted his father on the home farm until 1890, when he set up as an independent farmer. For eighteen years he farmed in Livingston county, part of the time on rented land and part of the time on holdings of his own. He arrived in Rock county March 3, 1908, and thereafter farmed the south half of section 19, Clinton township. Mr. Pendergast died in the fall of 1910 as the result of an accident.

At Dwight, Illinois, on February 3, 1891, Mr. Pendergast was married to Rose P. Conway, who was born in Livingston county, Illinois, February 25, 1866, and who is the daughter of Martin and Rose Conway, both deceased. The following named children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Pendergast: Mary, born October 30, 1891; Frances, born August 25, 1893; Florence, born November

15, 1895; Mike, born August 25, 1898; and Leo, born November 30, 1901.

Mr. Pendergast owned a two-fifths interest in the farm on section 19, the remainder belonging to the other heirs of the late Martin Conway, the original owner.

JACOB LE CLEIR (1907) is a farmer of Beaver Creek township residing a short distance east of the village of the same name. He is a native of Holland and was born March 1, 1865, the son of John and Johanah LeCleur, who now reside in Illinois.

Jacob LeCleur spent the first twenty-eight years of his life in his native land, having been brought up on a farm. He came to America in 1893, landing in the city of Philadelphia on March 23. The first four years of his life in the new world were spent working as a farm hand in Ontario county, New York. Toward the close of the year 1897 he went to Henry county, Illinois, where for the next ten years he engaged in farming. He came to Rock county in 1907 and has since been engaged in farming in Luverne and Beaver Creek townships. He located on his present farm, the southeast quarter of section 23, in the spring of 1911.

The gentleman whose name heads this sketch was married in Holland May 2, 1890, to Matilda Van Damme. She died on November 16, 1899, after having borne the following named five children: Ella (Mrs. Peter Drowden), who resides near Kenneth; and Mencie and Augustine, who reside with their father; Paul and Elizabeth (twins), who were born November 16, 1899, and died nine months later.

HENRY SUHL (1905) is one of the large farmers and successful stock raisers of Battle Plain township. With his sons he is engaged in farming a section of land. He is the owner of the north half of section 10; the rest of the land he rents. The stock he raises is of the very highest grade.

Henry Suhl is a native of Holstein, Germany, where he was born January 24, 1852, the son of John and Margaret (Peters) Suhl, both of whom lie buried in the fatherland. The former died in 1897, and the latter passed away one year previous. Our subject bade farewell to native land at the

age of twenty-six, in 1878, to cast his fortune in America, after having been for a number of years a German farmer. He was employed for four years on a farm thirty miles east of Buffalo, New York, and then journeyed westward. For three years he worked at farm labor near Davenport, Iowa, after which he located in Jackson county, Minnesota. He farmed rented land for seven years in Sioux Valley township and for nearly twice that length of time was a Lyon county (Iowa) farmer. He bought his present land and has been established in Rock county since 1905. For five years past Mr. Suhl has served as a director of his school district.

The marriage of Henry Suhl to Lena Helene was solemnized at Davenport, Iowa, on the twelfth of January, 1883. Mrs. Suhl was born in Holstein, Germany, February 26, 1862. Ten children have been born to these parents, namely: John, Ed, Alma, Louis and Willie, twins; Ella, Laura, Agnes, Henry and Lillie. With the exception of the oldest son John, who resides in Nobles county, all the children live at home.

JOHN OLSON (1905) has for the past five years been identified with the agricultural interests of Kanaranzi township. He is the son of Ole and Johanna Sorenson and a native of Norway, in which country his birth occurred on the fourteenth of July, 1872.

The subject of this sketch lived at home with his parents until reaching the age of sixteen. Then for seventeen years he engaged in a seafaring life. Until 1900 he served with a Norwegian merchant vessel. During that period he made repeated visits to France, England, Germany, and ports in many other foreign countries. He landed at Savannah, Georgia, in 1900, and since that date America has been his home. For four years he was employed on the docks in New York city and then shipped for a time on a number of the large boats on the Great Lakes.

While visiting Chicago in 1905, he was prevailed upon to seek his fortune in Minnesota's land of enchantment. He came to Rock county and for a year worked on the farm of Ed. Appleby, in Clinton township. In 1906 he rented his present home, the southwest quarter of section 18, Kanaranzi

township, which he has since continued to farm. Mr. Olson is unmarried.

Since the above was written, on March 31, 1911, Mr. Olson died at his home in Kananan township.

OTTO SODEMANN (1890) has been a Rock county resident for all except the first five years of his life. Near Peterson, Iowa, on November 29, 1885, he was born, the son of Henry and Minnie (Stralow) Sodemann. Both parents were natives of Germany and came to this country at the ages of nine and fifteen years, respectively. They resided in Illinois and later in Iowa previous in coming to Rock county. The father died April 26, 1906; the mother is still living and resides in Luverne.

In 1890 Otto and his parents became identified with Rock county interests. His youth was passed on his father's farm in Luverne township and his education was secured at the school of district No. 13. In the first year of his manhood he commenced farming on his own account in Luverne township, and in the spring of 1910 he rented the land he now farms, the south-east quarter of section 28, Mound township. He is a member of the A. O. U. W. lodge of Luverne.

In Luverne township, on September 8, 1909, Mr. Sodemann was united in marriage to Dorothy Herman. Mrs. Sodemann is a native of Scott county, Iowa, and was born March 22, 1891.

ED. PEET (1901), who farms the south-east quarter of section 4, Luverne township, is Minnesota born, his nativity occurring May 9, 1870, in Mower county. His father, William Peet, was an early settler of Mower county and has a record of more than fifty years continuous residence to his credit. His present home is in Brownsdale, Mower county. William Peet is a native of Sheffield, England, and came to America when a boy of fifteen. The mother of our subject, Sarah (Rosaye) Peet, a native of Pennsylvania, is still living.

For the first twenty-seven years of his life Ed. Peet lived on the home farm in Mower county, leaving in 1897 to go to Montevideo, Minnesota, near which place

he engaged in farming for two years. Heeding a call to the southland, in 1899 Mr. Peet went to Texas, locating on the border near Oakland, Oklahoma, and there he worked for six months in a tie camp. His next home was in Sioux City, Iowa, in which city he followed teaming as an occupation. July, 1901, marks his advent to Rock county. The first summer he hired out to a farmer near Magnolia, then rented and conducted a farm in Beaver Creek township for five years. After a year spent as a farmer in Ward county, North Dakota, Mr. Peet returned to Rock county and located on section 28, Luverne township, which he farmed until the spring of 1910, when he settled on his present farm, described above.

At Owatonna, Minnesota, on June 24, 1893, Mr. Peet was united in marriage to Emma Betcher, a native of Red Wing, Minnesota. The following children have been born to this union: Earl, born April 5, 1896; Iva, born August 9, 1898; Willie, born in September, 1904; Clinton, born January 1, 1907; and Marsel, born October 24, 1909.

ED. DE REU (1907) dates his residence in Rock county and Rose Dell township from 1907. He is a native of Rock Island county, Illinois, and was born March 23, 1873, the son of Peter and Mary (Van Haker) De Reu, who came originally from Belgium. He was educated in the district schools of his native county and assisted with the operation of the home farm until after his twenty-third birthday, in 1896. He then rented land and was engaged as an Illinois farmer until coming to Rock county in 1907. At that time he rented the west half of section 35, Rose Dell township, which is his home at the present time. Mr. De Reu is an extensive stock breeder. He is the overseer of road district No. 4.

The marriage of our subject to Virginia DeBate occurred in Illinois on December 10, 1895. Mrs. De Reu is the daughter of John and Sophia (Antones) DeBate and was born May 25, 1880. To these parents have been born the following eight children: Jennie S., born January, 5, 1897; Annie M., born April 26, 1898; Cammel, born July 11, 1899; Ida M., born September 15, 1900; Florence I., born March 29, 1902; Amelia Henrietta, born May 8, 1904; Alma E., born

May 29, 1906; Margret Lucile, born March 15, 1911. The family are members of the Catholic church.

JAMES VOPAT (1907), with his brother-in-law, Frank Macak, conducts Beaver Creek's first-class hotel. He was born in the city of Chicago October 17, 1879, of Bohemian parentage. He is the son of Frank and Fannie (Vopat) Vopat, who came to this country in 1877 and located in Chicago, remaining there until 1886, when a move to Geneva, Nebraska, was made. At that place the mother died. Mr. Vopat passed away at Vienna, South Dakota, in 1907.

James was eight years of age when he accompanied his parents from Chicago to Geneva, Nebraska. There he remained for eleven years, received a common school education, and assisted with the work on his father's farm. His first home after leaving the scenes of his youth was near Wadena, Minnesota, where he farmed for a year. For nine months thereafter he was engaged in the same occupation at Vienna, South Dakota, and then moved to Virginia, Minnesota. His residence in Beaver Creek commenced in 1907, and since that date he has been engaged in the hotel business. He is at present serving a term as councilman.

Mr. Vopat is a member of the Catholic church and the Yeomen lodge.

Our subject was united in marriage at Haugen, Wisconsin, on June 12, 1906, to Anna Knadle, a daughter of A. N. Knadle, of that place. Mrs. Vopat is a native of Vienna, South Dakota.

GUS GROMAN (1908) is one of the later arrivals to the ranks of Rock county's successful agriculturists. His parents, Henry and Doris (Lent) Groman, came to America from their native land of Germany in 1875, and settled in Pottawattamie county, Iowa, where Gus Groman was born July 25, 1882. He received a rural school education and during his youth assisted with the work on the home farm. Then for eight years he was employed as a teamster by a transfer company in the city of Davenport. In 1908 he established his present home in Springwater township. He rents and farms the northwest quarter of section 24, range 47.

While a resident of Davenport, on June 6, 1906, Mr. Groman was married to Pauline Schreck, who was born July 17, 1885, the daughter of Jorgen and Mary (Suhr) Schreck, of that Iowa city. Mr. and Mrs. Groman are members of the German Lutheran church.



CHARLES H. BENNETT

One of the Founders of Pipestone City and
the County's Oldest Settler.

CHAPTER XXXIV.

PIPESTONE COUNTY BIOGRAPHICAL.

CHARLES H. BENNETT (1873), the oldest settler of Pipestone county now residing in the county, is deservedly referred to as the "Father of Pipestone City." Since the day in April, 1874, when he erected the first human habitation in Pipestone county he has been a guiding spirit of the community. In company with D. E. Sweet, he platted the original Pipestone City in the spring of 1876, and ever since he has been a generous-hearted resident of the city, ever zealous of its welfare. He has seen Pipestone develop from a site without a building or an inhabitant, through the pioneer stages, into the substantial city it is today. During all those years none have given more of his time or talent to the promotion of every worthy cause than has Mr. Bennett.

Not only has he taken a leading part in the material advancement of his city and county, he has preserved in memory and records the events of historical importance from the earliest days, and to Charles H. Bennett the author of this volume is indebted more than to any other person for assistance in compiling this history of Pipestone county. Without the aid furnished by him, much of historical importance must have remained unrecorded.

Mr. Bennett comes from a family of town founders. His father, Isaiah W. Bennett, was a co-founder of the cities of Union City, Ann Arbor and Jackson, three of the prosperous cities of Michigan.

At Union City, Branch county, Michigan, on the second day of July, 1846, the subject of this biography was born, and in

that vicinity he spent his boyhood days. He served an enlistment in the civil war of 1861 to 1865, in 1864 as a member of company D, One Hundred thirty-fourth Illinois infantry, and after the war moved to the western country. Prior and subsequent to service in the army he had qualified himself as a pharmacist, as a student with Professors Proctor, Sargent, and other prominent pharmacists in Dubuque, Philadelphia, Chicago and Omaha.

In 1867 Mr. Bennett located in the village of Sioux City, Iowa, then a town not larger than Pipestone is now and without a railroad. For two years he was employed as clerk in a drug store in that frontier village, and in 1869 he located on the site of the present city of LeMars, Iowa, erecting the first business building in the town, in which he established a drug store. He conducted that business about seven years, or until taking up his residence in Pipestone county.

Mr. Bennett first beheld the scenes of his later activities in August, 1873. At that time he paid a visit to the famous Red Pipestone quarries, accompanied by his wife, who died the following year; his sister, Mrs. Annie E. Wright; his baby nephew, Cenie C. Wright; and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Flint. While at the quarries on that visit Mr. Bennett selected the site of Pipestone for a future home and as the point at which he would some day found a city. In carrying out his plans, Mr. Bennett, accompanied by others, visited the site again in April, 1874, and erected the first building in the county. That was on a claim of 160 acres he had pre-empted—

the southeast quarter of section 12, township 106, north of range 46 west. The exact site of the claim shanty is lot 14, of block 12, original plat of Pipestone City, and is diagonally across the street from Commerce block, at the northwest corner of the intersection of Centennial and Hia-watha streets. The lumber for the pioneer shanty was hauled from Luverne. (A large reinforced concrete cement building is now being erected on the foregoing site by Joseph Sturzl for a garage and machinery establishment). A few weeks after it was put up Mr. Bennett had thirty-seven acres of prairie land broken on and near the townsite.

In order to devote his entire time to the new settlement, Mr. Bennett disposed of his drug business in LeMars on the first of January, 1876, and in the spring of the same year he and D. E. Sweet platted Pipestone City. He planted twenty acres of trees and later twenty acres more and erected an office building, which now forms a part of his residence, on lots 14, 15 and 16, block 11, original plat. The lumber for the building was secured in Worthington and was hauled with teams by him fifty miles across country where roads were unknown. Mr. Bennett broke more land and planted the seeds that were to bear fruit and help transform the wilderness into a blooming garden. Settlers were invited into the new country, and largely through Mr. Bennett's instrumentality the first mail routes and post roads were established and the first steps taken for a civil organization.

On October 6, 1877, Charles H. Bennett took as his second wife Adelaide B. George, of Warner, New Hampshire, and in 1878 they established a permanent home in Pipestone. Hauling lumber from Luverne, a large two-story building was erected, in which, in the spring of 1879, Mr. Bennett established the first drug store in the county, a business he has ever since conducted. The business is now housed in the substantial and beautiful stone building on Centennial street, erected in the early days. Many other men hesitated through lack of faith in the future development of the town to invest of their means in building, but Mr. Bennett, confident of a future prosperity, spent freely of his means and all

he could borrow to such ends. Besides the Bennett block, he erected the former postoffice corner of the Syndicate block. Portions of the first frame building put up by Mr. Bennett for his drug business were used for church services, court purposes, county offices and public hall.

Many of the flourishing institutions and factors of progress of which Pipestone today attributes its substantial and attractive appearance can be traced directly to the activity and influence of Charles H. Bennett. He was largely instrumental in the removal from LeMars, Iowa, of the widely-known English firm of Close Bros., who established their office headquarters in Pipestone and inaugurated a boom for that city. To this Mr. Bennett contributed liberally in money and many thousands of dollars' worth of land and lots, which were turned over to the great land firm. He secured the building by Close Bros. of the first Calumet hotel, costing \$40,000, which was burned, and the erection by them of forty new houses on adjacent lands. He assisted in bringing additional railroads to the county and was the most active agency in securing legislation and appropriation from congress for the founding in Pipestone of one of the finest government Indian industrial schools in the United States.

In an official capacity Mr. Bennett has also been of invaluable service to this city and county. Although not a lawyer by profession, he was elected the first county attorney of Pipestone county, later served as county court commissioner, and for several years efficiently served as chairman of the board of Pipestone county commissioners. He was the first clerk of Sweet township and has served as justice of the peace and as a member of the city council. In 1897 he was elected mayor and during his incumbency he accomplished an enterprise that has had lasting effects. He inaugurated the plan of conducting a contest for civic improvement among the housekeepers of the municipality. He offered as a prize a town lot valued at \$150, which was given to the lady who during the year caused the most improvements in her dooryard, street and surrounding lots and who secured the maximum amount of labor from tramps in bringing about the desired results. This novel plan, prompted by gen-

erosity and public spirit, set the mark for a better Pipestone in sanitation and general improvement.

The business conducted by Mr. Bennett is a model enterprise of its kind. It is headquarters for the largest stock of raw and manufactured Indian pipestone in the world. A large exhibit, under a concession, for the sale of pipestone curios was maintained at the World's Columbian exposition at Chicago in 1893, and also at the Louisiana Purchase exposition at St. Louis in 1904 by Mr. Bennett. In both instances he was awarded silver and bronze medals and diplomas of significance.

Mr. Bennett is a member of three local Masonic orders, the Royal Arch Chapter, Blue Lodge and Eastern Star. In the affairs of that noble organization, the Grand Army of the Republic, Mr. Bennett has always been an active participant. He is a charter member and a past commander of Simon Mix Post No. 80, department of Minnesota. He has been honored by the department as a former member of the committee on the state soldiers' home and he is at present adjutant of the post, an office he had held for many years. He was also a charter member of the First Presbyterian church of Pipestone City.

As a life member of the Minnesota Historical society, Mr. Bennett has rendered valuable aid to the society. He is a charter member of the Pipestone County Old Settlers' society and has been its president. He has been continually secretary and historian of the society, and in those capacities he has prepared a rare record of local event in the county by keeping on file copies of every newspaper ever published in Pipestone City. These files, comprising many bound volumes, have been loaned to and placed by the society in the Carnegie public library. He has also preserved a duplicate set of files as above for his own use.

MAJOR D. E. RUNALS (1876), of Osborne township, is one of the valiant pioneers who so prominently and actively played their allotted parts in the events incident to the formative period of both Rock and Pipestone counties. He has fought a good fight and is now retired from active pursuits, although he continues to make

the home of his declining years on the old farm on which he has resided for the past thirty years. His is one of the exceptionally fine and attractive farm homes of Osborne township. In that precinct he owns three quarter sections of land.

Major D. E. Runals was born in Burlington, Bradford county, Pennsylvania, May 1, 1843. His father was Abner Runals, whose birth occurred March 2, 1789, at Concord, Rockingham (now Merrimac) county, New Hampshire. By occupation he was a millwright and miller. He was one of the first settlers of Wyoming county, New York, later moved to Ohio, Pennsylvania, and finally to Forestville, Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he died April 2, 1860. The mother of our subject was Cassandra (Ellicott) Runals, who before her marriage to Abner Runals on April 10, 1837, was a Mrs. Kingsbury. She was born in Maryland November 25, 1798, and died at Granville, Bradford county, Pennsylvania, June 16, 1852.

A history of the Runals and Ellicott families is now being prepared by Major Runals, and from his data some interesting ancestral information is gleaned. It has been ascertained that the Runals family originated in Ayrshire, Scotland. The first of the family born in America was John Runals (then spelled Ranals), the great great grandfather of our subject. He was born in 1689, and died in the town of Durham, New Hampshire, in 1756. His son, Abraham, served in the revolutionary war under Colonel Pierce Long and died July 24, 1804, at the age of eighty-six years. Abraham Runals had four sons who served in the struggle for independence. The seventh son, Jonathan, was born at Lee, New Hampshire, August 16, 1758, and died at Deering, in the same state, on April 18, 1840. He married Dorothy Dimond, the daughter of Ezekiel and Marian Dimond, who were the first settlers of Concord, New Hampshire. She was born October 15, 1780. The son of Jonathan and Dorothy (Dimond) Runals was Abner Runals, already mentioned as the father of our subject.

Tradition shows the Ellicott family to have been of early Saxon origin and to have been represented in Devonshire, England, at the time of the Norman conquest in

1066. The ancestry of Major Runals on his mother's side can be traced direct to the marriage of Francis Fox to Dorothy Kekewich, in Cornwall, England, in 1646. The founder of the American branch of this family, a direct descendant of this marriage, was Andrew Ellicott, born July 11, 1708, who on coming to America in 1730 settled in Bucks county, Pennsylvania. The mother of our subject, Cassandra Ellicott, was directly descended from this Andrew Ellicott.

Mr. Runals, whom we are now considering, passed the first twelve years of his life in various parts of Pennsylvania, where his father happened to be employed in the erection of mills. The family moved to Minnesota in 1855, located first at Carimona, and later at Forestville, Fillmore county, which was the home of our subject until locating in Rock county in 1876. The year following his advent to Minnesota he took a position on the Fillmore County Pioneer, the first newspaper published in the county. He worked there until publication was suspended; then for a time he was successively connected with the Decorah Journal and Decorah Gazette. The year previous to the outbreak of the civil war he worked at farm labor.

At the call for volunteers Major Runals was one of the first to respond. He enlisted June 26, 1861, at Chatfield, Minnesota, as a musician in company A, Second Minnesota volunteer infantry. He was shortly after transferred to the ranks, and later become orderly to the colonel and regimental postmaster. He was wounded in the left breast at the battle of Chickamauga, and a few days after the battle, mention of Mr. Runals' conduct in the battle was made in the report of Colonel J. George, dated September 30, 1863. Following is an extract from the report: "Orderly M. D. E. Runals and Bugler Albert Gissell are entitled to special mention for their gallant and prompt discharge of duties under fire. Both were severely wounded."

During the latter period of the great sectional struggle Major Runals was detached from his regiment and attached as a dispatch bearer to the headquarters of the left wing army of Georgia, commanded by General W. H. Slocum. He participated in the battles and engagements at Perryville,

Kentucky, Chickamauga, Averysboro, Bentonville, and in the Atlanta campaign and the memorable march to the sea with Sherman. His is the distinction of being the first man to breast the works and enter Corinth after the evacuation of that city by the confederates in 1862. He was discharged from the service at Fort Snelling on July 11, 1865.

At the cessation of hostilities our subject zealously applied himself to his education. He attended the Cedar Valley seminary, at Osage, Iowa, for two terms; then he entered Eastman's Business college, at Poughkeepsie, New York, from which he received a diploma in 1866. Following his graduation he accepted a position as bookkeeper for Felix Meighen, at Forestville. He then took the management of a store at Anson, Wisconsin, for Gilbert Bros. & Co. Following that, he was engaged successively in Fillmore county in securing patent rights, teaching school and farming. Mr. Runals then journeyed to the Pacific coast states, Idaho, Montana, and other localities in the west, on a prospecting tour. He struck a bonanza and at one time was reported to be worth \$150,000, but much of this fortune he lost before returning east.

After a short sojourn in his Fillmore county home, he visited in New Hampshire and the scenes of his birth. On again coming west, he located in Rock county, arriving in the latter part of October, 1876. On January 2, 1877, he declared his intention of homesteading the southeast quarter of section 32, Battle Plain township, which he carried into effect by filing a claim on March 26, 1877. Final proof was made September 14, 1878, and he made his residence on the land the year following. During that period Mr. Runals was one of those who perfected the organization of the township, and he served as its first clerk. For three months he was employed in the store of W. H. Glass, at Beaver Creek.

In 1879 Major Runals became identified with Pipestone county interests. On leaving the Battle Plain farm, he located in the prospective town of Edgerton and erected the second building in the town. He was variously engaged during his residence of three years in the place. He

was in the real estate business, clerked in a store, and served as the deputy postmaster. For a time he was absent from Edgerton, while in the employ of Kniss & Walters, who were engaged in construction work in Iowa.

In the spring of 1882 this man of achievement located on the present Osborne township farm, his home to this day. The land had been homesteaded by Sarah J. Chapman, who on September 16, 1882, became the wife of M. D. E. Runals. On June 18, 1877, he filed a timber claim to the southeast quarter of section 22, township 105, range 44. Many were the offices of trust held by Mr. Runals in these early days. He was the first notary public given a commission in Pipestone county. That he received in 1879. He served as township justice and as a supervisor, and was for a time clerk of school district No. 2.

Major Runals has been twice married. His first wife was Eliza S. Baldwin, whom he married in Fillmore county on New Years day, 1867. To that union was born one son: Kenneth Artemas, now of California. He was born September 4, 1868. His second marriage has already been mentioned. Sarah (Chapman) Runals was born at Salem, Kenosha county, Wisconsin, on March 28, 1846. She comes of an old family, of English descent. She was graduated from the Kenosha, Wisconsin, high school in 1867 and taught school for over twenty years in Wisconsin and Minnesota.

JOSEPH H. CRAWFORD (1878), Pipestone county pioneer and large land owner of Sweet township, is an Iowan by birth. His parents, Robert and Sarah (Shannon) Crawford, both natives of Coshocton county, Ohio, moved to Allamakee county, Iowa, where they had bought government land, in the early fifties, and in that county occurred the birth of our subject on February 26, 1856.

Joseph attended the district schools of Allamakee county and resided on the home farm until he was twenty-two years of age. Then, in 1878, young Crawford journeyed to the new Pipestone county, which had just commenced to attract the hardy settler, and there he determined upon the

establishment of a future home. He pre-empted the northeast quarter of section 6, Sweet township, later changing his filing to a homestead claim and making final proof in 1885. To his original holding Mr. Crawford has added by purchase the southeast quarter of section 6 and the northwest quarter of the same section, which makes him today the possessor of 480 acres of as choice land as the county affords. He engages extensively in buying and feeding stock. In the promotion of his community's interests our subject has at all times been prominently and actively concerned. He represented the third district on the board of county commissioners for two years. Mr. Crawford is a director of school district No. 46 and is the president of the Farmers Elevator company of Airlie.

In Buchanan county, Iowa, the fourth of March, 1885, occurred the ceremony which united Joseph H. Crawford and Margaret Hood in the bonds of matrimony. Mrs. Crawford was born in Scotland September 24, 1860, and is a daughter of David and Barbara (Clawson) Hood. Mr. and Mrs. Crawford are the parents of the following named seven children: Sarah B., born January 9, 1886; Florence M., born August 22, 1888; May, born June 10, 1890; Bertha, born November 13, 1896; Robert, born April 27, 1898; David, born February 8, 1900; and Hildred, born March 14, 1902.

WILLIAM J. TAYLOR (1875). Of those who came to Pipestone county in the very early days and took part in the history making events of the middle seventies only two are still residents of the county—C. H. Bennett and Dr. William J. Taylor, the subject of this biography. When he first visited the county, in 1874, and made preparations for settlement there were only two men living in the county and when he took up his permanent residence there in 1875 only a few more had pushed their way to this frontier region. He is certainly one of the pioneers of the county. Dr. Taylor resides in the city of Pipestone and is the senior member of the firm of Taylor & Rice, physicians and surgeons.

Lynden township, Cataraugus county, New York state, is the birthplace of Dr.

Taylor, having been born there on the eighteenth day of April, 1844. At the age of seven years he accompanied his parents to Dane county, Wisconsin, and grew to manhood on a farm eight miles west of the city of Madison. His education was secured in the common schools of his county, in the university of Wisconsin and in Rush Medical college.

While a resident of Dane county and when eighteen years of age our subject, on August 20, 1862, enlisted in company K, of the Thirty-second Wisconsin volunteer infantry, and served an enlistment of nearly three years, having been mustered out in Washington, District of Columbia, on the twelfth day of June, 1865. He took part in the siege of Atlanta, was in Sherman's army on the march to the sea and in the march through the Carolinas, and participated in many engagements. After the war he returned to his home in Dane county and completed his education. In 1873 Dr. Taylor located at Black Earth, Wisconsin, where he began the practice of his profession and where he resided until May, 1874.

The events that led to Dr. Taylor's becoming a resident of Pipestone county are similar to those recorded for the settlement of many of the pioneer places of the west. In seeking a location in some new western country Dr. Taylor, in the spring of 1874, had paid a visit to Nebraska. On his return trip he stopped off for a visit with his sister, Mrs. E. H. Bronson, who resided at Beaver Creek, in Rock county. There he was told of the pretty country about the famous Pipestone quarries, and in June, 1874, he set out with a companion to visit the site. Where the city of Pipestone now stands he found the Sweet cabin, occupied by Daniel E. Sweet, wife and son and John Lowry, then the only residents of Pipestone county, Charles H. Bennett having been there a short time before but having then departed for his home in LeMars, Iowa. At the time only forty acres of land had been broken—ten acres on Sweet's claim, ten on Mr. Bennett's and two ten-acre tracts on tree claims west of the spot where Pipestone was later builded.

Dr. Taylor became enamored of the spot and at once decided to make his future home there. While on this initial

visit he participated in the first republican county convention of Pipestone county—participated in by the only three men then in the county—and had the honor of being chosen to represent the county at the congressional convention held at Owatonna later in the year, the story of which is to be found in the historical part of this volume. Dr. Taylor remained at the quarries only long enough to select his claims, choosing the northwest quarter of section 18, Gray township, as a soldier's homestead, and the southwest quarter of the same section as a tree claim. He returned to his Wisconsin home and in August, 1874, filed his claims in the government land office.

The doctor spent the winter of 1874-75 teaching school in Dane county, Wisconsin, but the next spring, in company with H. D. Sanford, he organized a small party of homeseekers and drove again to Pipestone. He built a small house on his claim, broke some of the land, and remained in the land of his future home until the month of June. There were then five people living in the county or with intentions of soon becoming residents, and these participated in the second county convention. Again Dr. Taylor was chosen to represent the unorganized county, this time in the state convention at St. Paul. Dr. Taylor attended the convention and then spent the winter of 1875-76 in Wisconsin.

During the month of March, 1876, Dr. Taylor came to Pipestone county to reside permanently, his wife joining him that year. H. D. Sanford also came and both gentlemen seeded the lands they had broken the year before. The newcomers did not escape the devastation that visited the country during the seventies. On the twenty-seventh of July the grasshoppers swooped down upon their fields and almost totally destroyed their crops. Dr. Taylor took a "grasshopper leave" and in August moved to Luverne, where he engaged in the practice of his profession. For a few years he spent most of his time in the Rock county village, his family residing on his claim, however, until he proved up.

In the month of March, 1879, Dr. Taylor moved from Luverne to his claim, where for a number of years he conducted the

farm on the edge of town and engaged in practice in the village.' In 1889 he erected the stone building in Pipestone which is now occupied by the Cook drug store and the Johnson & Taylor jewelry store, and the following year he moved to the city. He has since devoted his time to the practice of his profession (being now the senior member of the firm of Taylor & Rice) and in looking after his land holdings, he now owning 400 acres of land in one tract.

Pipestone has been made the city it is today almost entirely through the efforts of its citizens, some of whom devoted their energies to the upbuilding of the city at great personal sacrifices. Among the number who took the lead in everything that might eventuate a greater Pipestone were five or six citizens, and among the number none took a more prominent part than the gentleman whose name heads this sketch. It was largely through his instrumentality and that of other influential citizens that the Burlington railroad (later the Rock Island) was builded to the city, he with Messrs. Nichols, Goodnow and Moore spending one whole summer in helping secure the right of way for the company, and in almost every enterprise of a like nature he has taken a leading part.

In an official capacity Dr. Taylor has served his community on various occasions. He was a member of the pension examining board for a number of years, has been a member of the city council, of the board of education, was county coroner for a number of years, and has been a member of the local board of health. Fraternally the doctor is associated with many worthy orders, holding membership in the Blue Lodge, Chapter and Council of the Masonic order, Grand Army of the Republic, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Modern Woodmen and Ancient Order of United Workmen.

Dr. Taylor is a man of family, having been married at Madison, Wisconsin, on November 19, 1868, to Jennie Sanford, who was born in Iowa, but who grew to womanhood in Middletown, Wisconsin. Dr. and Mrs. Taylor are the parents of five children, named as follows: Orville S., of Lemmon, South Dakota; Luella (Mrs. Wil-

liam McGillivray), of Pipestone; Maude S. (Mrs. Grant S. Beardsley), of Eugene, Oregon; Mayme and Jane E.

RICHARD H. O'CONNELL (1878) president of the Ihlen State Bank, is one of Pipestone county's earliest settlers, a homesteader of 1878. There were but three buildings' on the present site of Pipestone at the time, and he arrived in season to lose his first crop by the ravages of the unwelcome grasshoppers. The son of Richard and Letitia O'Connell, our subject was born in Janesville, Wisconsin, May 14, 1857. His parents came to America from Ireland in 1848.

Mr. O'Connell was a year old infant when he located with his parents in Saint Croix county, Wisconsin, where he grew to manhood on his father's farm. On arriving at his majority Richard left the shelter of the parental roof and journeyed to the new country of Pipestone county. He took as a homestead claim the northeast quarter of section 8, Eden township, land which he developed from a prairie waste to a well-improved farm with elegant and substantial residence and barns. He farmed the place until 1902, when he became a resident of Pipestone, moving thence to Ihlen in 1908 to engage in the banking business. Mr. O'Connell still retains possession of the old homestead, other real estate he later acquired, and also residence property in Pipestone.

In May, 1883, in Luverne, our subject was united in marriage to Ellen Dickson, who was also born in Janesville, Wisconsin. The following eight children have been born to this union: Letitia, Henry, Thomas, Richard, Mary, Lillian, Patrick and Ellen. Henry and Thomas are twin brothers. Mr. O'Connell is a member of the A. O. U. W. lodge. During his long residence in Eden township he has held many offices of trust. Besides his interest in the bank, he is one of the owners of the Ihlen Mercantile company.

The private bank of which the Ihlen State Bank is the successor was founded in 1904 by L. L. Dale, who disposed of it after two years to M. C. Duea. A year later the institution was reorganized as a state bank, with a capital stock of \$10,000,

as it is today. The present officers are: President, R. H. O'Connell; vice president, R. G. Larson; assistant cashier, Lillian O'Connell. S. B. Duea and William F. Eikmeier are additional directors.

CHRIST GILBERTSON (1878), one of the earliest of Aetna township's settlers, now living a retired life in the village of Ruthton, dates his residence in the county from May 10, 1878. Only two men, Ed. Ginzel and John Mooney, can claim a longer settlement in Aetna township, and that by only a few months. Mr. Gilbertson was an active participant in the events incident to the township's organization.

A native of the land of the midnight sun, the subject of this biography was born on June 8, 1845. His father, Gulbrand Hanson, died in Aetna township in April, 1882. His mother, Carrie (Oldsdatter) Hanson, passed away in 1879, while the family were residents of Fillmore county. Christ passed the first twenty-two years of his life in Norway. He was reared on a farm and after growing up commenced working out, doing farm work in the summers and during the winter seasons following a woodsman's life. In June, 1867, Mr. Gilbertson commenced his career in America. He went direct to Fillmore county, Minnesota, worked at farm labor for the first several years, then rented land and farmed on his own account. He later bought a forty acre farm in that county. While there he was joined by his parents, who came from Norway.

Pipestone county was a raw, untempered prairie land when it was first beheld by this honored pioneer, and settlement had scarcely begun. The trip was made overland from Fillmore county. Mr. Gilbertson filed homestead and tree claims to the east half of section 28, Aetna township, and that continued to be the scene of his rewarded industry until 1898. His first abode was a 16x24 feet, two-room sod house, which was the family home four years. He was engaged in the livery business in Ruthton for a number of years. For the past thirteen years he has lived in the residence he built just outside of Ruthton. Mr. Gilbertson has served terms as supervisor and treasurer of Aetna township. He is a mem-

ber of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Ruthton.

Christ Gilbertson was first married in Norway on April 4, 1865, to Bertha Olson. Two sons and two daughters were born to this union, named Gilbert, Ole, Matilda and Emma. With the exception of Gilbert, of Ruthton, all these children are deceased. To the second union no children were born. On December 26, 1872, in Fillmore county, Martha Hanson became the wife of our subject. Again, in Ruthton, on November 10, 1898, he was joined in marriage to Mary Christina Peterson, who was born in Denmark April 5, 1861. Mr. and Mrs. Gilbertson are the parents of the following named children: Chris Melvin, Arlo, Norva, Glenn Theodore and Bertha Evelyn.

WARRINGTON B. BROWN (1878). With one exception, the gentleman whose name heads this review has had a longer continuous residence in Pipestone county than any other man now living in the county. The exception is Charles H. Bennett. J. H. Nichols came to the county for permanent residence one day after Mr. Brown. During these many years he has been a resident of Pipestone county, Mr. Brown has been an influential citizen, many times having been called upon to serve in an official capacity. When the county was organized he was chosen as a member of the first board of county commissioners and was chairman of the board from 1880 to 1885. He was a member of the Minnesota legislature during the session of 1885 and was state senator in the sessions of 1887 and 1889.

The birthplace of Mr. Brown was Colchester, Chittenden county, Vermont, and he first saw the light of day on June 4, 1845. At the age of twelve years he accompanied the family to Janesville, Rock county, Wisconsin, where he grew to manhood and secured his education. He served in the union army during the war of the rebellion as a member of company I, Thirty-eighth Wisconsin infantry, his regiment being in the army of the Potomac. At the battle of Petersburg he was wounded by being struck on the head by a minie ball, and carries the scar of the wound to this day. After receiving the wound he re-

ceived his discharge from the army and in September, 1865, took up his residence in Goodhue county, Minnesota, where he engaged in farming until 1878.

In March of the last named year Mr. Brown came to Pipestone county, then almost entirely uninhabited. He spent the first few days in the shanty of Daniel E. Sweet, now deceased, which stood on Main street in the city of Pipestone, where the Sellers furniture store now stands. He at once filed a homestead claim to the northeast quarter of section 30, Grange township, improved the place, and made his home there during the next eight years. He then took up his residence in the city, where he has since resided, having been engaged in the machinery business during all of that time. Mr. Brown holds membership in Simon Mix Post No. 95, G. A. R., and is a member of the A. F. & A. M. order. For five years he was chief of the Pipestone fire department.

Mr. Brown is a man of family, having been married at Red Wing, Minnesota, October 30, 1875, to Mary Holliday. She was born in Westmoreland, England, October 27, 1848, came to the United States with her parents, John and Anna Holliday, when seven years of age, and settled with the family at Janesville, Wisconsin, later moving to Goodhue county, Minnesota. To Mr. and Mrs. Brown have been born the following named six children: Dr. Paul F., of Minneapolis; Warrington S., of Lemmon, South Dakota; Garfield W., a lawyer of Glencoe, Minnesota; Annie B. (Mrs. George W. Winters), of Big Stone county, Minnesota; Mabel C. (Mrs. William Morgan), of Pipestone; Ruth H. (Mrs. Roland Donaldson), of Pipestone.

The parents of our subject were Jason and Sarah Brown, both natives of Vermont. They moved to Janesville, Wisconsin, in 1857 and while a resident of that place the father of our subject enlisted in company D, Second Wisconsin infantry. He was killed in the first battle of Bull Run on July 21, 1861. Mrs. Brown died at Appleton, Wisconsin. There are five living children of this family: Sarah Schultè, of Appleton, Wisconsin; Nettie Carpenter, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin; W. B. Brown, of this sketch; Luke Brown, of Pipestone; Myna Brown, of Appleton Wisconsin.

EUGENE S. BUTMAN (1878). There is no better known or more successful agriculturist living in Pipestone county today than the gentleman whose name heads this review. Mr. Butman was one of the homesteaders of Troy township, taking a claim in 1878, and that town has ever since been his home and the scene of his rewarded activities. His original farm of 160 acres on section 12, range 47, has been added to year by year until now more than 1000 acres of Troy's choicest soil is the property of this man of industry.

Eugene S. Butman was born in LaCrosse county, Wisconsin, October 4, 1856, the son of Stark and Mary J. (Lynn) Butman, both of whom were natives of Ohio. Our subject was educated in the district schools of his native county and lived on the farm of his father until he commenced his career in Pipestone county, thirty-three years ago. Mr. Butman devotes considerable attention to the breeding of high grade cattle, sheep and hogs, and he directs the shipment of all his stock. He owns stock in a number of substantial enterprises, among them the Pipestone State Bank, Farmers Elevator companies of Airlie and Cazenovia, the Independent Harvester company of Plano, Illinois, and the Pipestone Rural Telephone company, of which he is the president.

Mr. Butman has always taken an active interest in matters of the public good and has labored zealously for the promotion of every worthy enterprise in both his home precinct and the county at large. He has had an opportunity to do this in a service of twenty years as a member of the board of township supervisors, and as a school director for a quarter of a century. Our subject is an ex-member of the board of county commissioners. He is a Maccabee by fraternal affiliation.

On New Years day, 1883, in Wisconsin, Eugene S. Butman was joined in wedlock to Anna M. Stillpflug, a native of the Badger state. She was born May 4, 1863, the daughter of Christopher and Mary (Sever) Stillpflug, both of whom were of German birth. To Mr. and Mrs. Butman have been born three sons and five daughters, all but one of whom are living. Their names are Mary Jane, born April 26, 1884, died May 28, 1904, Nellie L., born July 25,

1886; Roy, born November 16, 1888; Hiram, born January 17, 1890; Ida M., born March 5, 1893; Start, born July 7, 1895; Clara, born February 18, 1901; and Elizabeth, born January 3, 1905.

JOHN E. DANNEKER (1878) has been a leading resident and agriculturist of Grange township since the first year of that precinct's existence. He homesteaded the west half of the northeast quarter of section 28, in 1878, adding later by purchase the east half of the same quarter. He is now the owner of as substantially improved a quarter section of farming land as is to be found in the county. Mr. Danneker experienced many reverses and discouragements during the pioneer days, especially during the memorable winter of 1880-81, which will ever be remembered for its unusual severity.

The subject of this biography is a native German and was born on a farm in the province of Wurttemberg September 20, 1850, the son of Anton and Anna (Riede) Danneker. John was educated in the German lower schools, and he assisted with the duties on the home farm until twenty years old, when the America of many opportunities beckoned him, and he responded to the call. He journeyed direct to Minnesota and for a time was variously employed, as gardener, in a brick yard, and in a saw mill in the city of St. Paul. He then went on a farm in the vicinity and remained until the commencement of his successful career in Pipestone county. Mr. Danneker is an extensive stock raiser, making a specialty of Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs. He owns stock in the farmers' elevator at Pipestone and in the Midway Telephone company. Our subject has served for sixteen years as township supervisor and is the clerk of school district No. 16.

Mr. Danneker was married in Fountain Prairie township December 2, 1880, to Julia E. Heathfield, the daughter of Charles and Jane (Giles) Heathfield, now of Pipestone. She was born in New York on November 28, 1854. Four daughters, Laura, Sabina, Jane and Ruth, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Danneker. The family are members of the Catholic church.

DANIEL B. WHIGAM (1878), of Pipestone, is one of the pioneers of 1878 who settled in the county about the same time as C. H. Bennett, J. H. Nichols, Dr. Taylor, Daniel Sweet, Charles Smith, the Stuarts, and others who were so intimately connected with the early history and development of Pipestone county and city. Mr. Whigam entered Pipestone county in 1878, driving an ox team from eastern Minnesota. He is given the credit for building the second dwelling in Troy township.

Our subject has one brother, William, a resident of Lake county, Illinois, and a half-brother, L. R. Ober, the hardware merchant of Pipestone. In Lake county, Illinois, on February 8, 1840, Daniel B. Whigam was born. At the age of seventeen he severed home times and undertook the long journey to California, going by way of the isthmus of Panama. In the Golden West he was employed for nearly four years in driving freight wagons to the frontier mining towns. Returning to his old Illinois home, Mr. Whigam was married and for seven years thereafter was a Lake county farmer. He then became a resident of Minnesota, locating in Faribault, where he engaged in the restaurant business six years. It was from Faribault that the ox team journey was made to Pipestone county.

Arriving in the land of promise with \$100, Mr. Whigam at once took as a homestead claim the southwest quarter of section 10, Troy township, which he made a fruitful farm, and resided there sixteen years. The lumber to build his first house was hauled from Laverne. During the severe blizzard of 1888 this Troy pioneer lost twenty head of cattle. In 1894 Mr. Whigam became a resident of Pipestone. For four years he carried on a dairy business, then bought the George Warner cigar manufactory and store, which he still conducts in the same building. His first annual output was 80,000 cigars, and since then it has averaged between 50,000 and 60,000 cigars per annum. Mr. Whigam served two terms as a member of the city council. He has been a member of the Masonic order since 1864, having been received into membership during his residence in Illinois.

In Lake county, Illinois, on August 20, 1863, Daniel B. Whigam was joined in

wedlock to Lucy A. Smith, who died in 1890 at the age of forty-five years. To this union, one son, L. Bert, of Seattle, Washington, was born. On August 20, 1902, Mr. Whigam was married to Grace Larmom, a school teacher and a native of Kentucky.

PETER H. NORVOLD (1877), who lives a retired life at Jasper, has been a resident of Rock and Pipestone counties thirty-four years and is one of the highly respected citizens of the village in which he makes his home.

Mr. Norvold was born in Skedsmo, Norway, in 1842. He came to America in 1851 and became a resident of Allamakee county, Iowa, where he purchased land in 1860. He was married in 1862 to Maren Olsen Saga, who emigrated from Christiania, Norway. To them ten children were born, of whom the following named seven are living: Albert H., of Volga, South Dakota; Herman M., of Luverne; Carl W., who resides with his father in Jasper; Mrs. L. Erickson, of Pipestone county; Mrs. Erick Ausen, Mrs. Oscar Ausen and Mrs. Otto K. Steen, all of Rock county.

Mr. and Mrs. Norvold came to Rock county in the fall of 1877 and the next year filed a homestead claim to the southwest quarter of section 2 and a timber claim to the southeast quarter of the same section, in Rose Dell township. They improved the place and there they resided until 1908, when they, with their son Carl, retired from farm life and moved to Jasper, where they had purchased a home. Mrs. Norvold departed from this life on December 2, 1910, at the age of sixty-nine years.

O. B. JOHNSON (1879) is retired from active pursuits and resides in Ruthton. He was born in Denmark April 15, 1851, and in that country he attended school and grew to manhood on a farm. At the age of twenty years he came to the United States and settled in St. Louis. In 1879 he located in Pipestone county, taking as a homestead claim the northeast quarter of section 2, Aetna township.

Mr. Johnson was one of the first settlers of Aetna township and is one of the few re-

maining homesteaders in the precinct. His first house was a dug-out, the lumber in the roof of which was hauled from Tracy. The initial home was replaced in 1880 with a house of lumber, the building being completed by the construction of an addition in 1888. He set out a big grove and otherwise improved the homestead, land which he still owns.

The subject of this review passed through the days of Pipestone county's early history when twisted hay was used for fuel to supply warmth during the long, cold winters. In 1887, when the Great Northern railroad was building through the county, the chief engineer and his crew stopped at Mr. Johnson's house for several months and were compelled to twist hay to keep from freezing. Ten years ago Mr. Johnson erected a fine house in the village of Ruthton, and since that time has led a retired life.

O. B. Johnson is the son of John Johanson and Margareta Johanson. The father died in the old country; the mother came to the United States with her son in 1871 and died in Ruthton in 1894, at the age of seventy-four years. The following named children of this family are living: Hans, Peter, Ole, Mary and Anna.

O. B. Johnson was married at LaCrosse, Wisconsin, October 22, 1872, to Miss Anna L. C. Young, who was born in Christianstad, Sweden. Both are members of the Methodist church of Ruthton. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have two children: Oscar, of Lignite, North Dakota, and Alma (Mrs. Ben D. Martinson), of Ruthton.

JOHN HARVEY (1877) is one of Pipestone county's very earliest settlers and his home since 1877 has been continuously on the land he homesteaded at that date, the southeast quarter of section 24, Osborne township. He was born in Lee county, Illinois, October 26, 1854. His father, Edward Harvey, who died in Pipestone county in August, 1904, was a native of county Armagh, Ireland. His mother was Ann (Smith) Harvey, a native of New York state. She died in December, 1907, at Stewartville, Minnesota.

When John was in his third or fourth year the Harvey family moved from Illinois to Olmsted county, Minnesota, and there

he lived until coming to Pipestone county in 1877. In the fall of that year he took as a pre-emption claim the Osborne township farm already described. The following spring Mr. Harvey broke twenty acres of the land and in the fall erected thereon a frame shanty, 10x14 feet. He spent the summer of 1878 working near Luverne. The only other settler within a large radius when our subject took his claim was A. D. Kingsbury, who had located on land upon which the town of Edgerton now stands. During the troublesome grasshopper days in 1879 Mr. Harvey was forced to seek other employment than farming to keep body and soul together. Since those days he has prospered and is now one of the substantial farmers of the precinct.

At Luverne, on February 15, 1881, John Harvey was married to Charlotte Madison, a native of Sweden. Mrs. Harvey died March 26, 1897. Three children were born to this union: Melvin, born August 18, 1893; Loretta, born December 6, 1894; and John, born September 3, 1896.

ISAAC L. HART (1879), the founder of the pioneer and most influential journal in Pipestone county, the Pipestone County Star, has for thirty-two years been connected with the paper as publisher. He was one of the very first business men to identify himself with the little prairie hamlet of Pipestone, and ever since the first year of its existence has made of the Star an agency that has labored without respite for the advancement of city and county along every worthy line of growth.

A native of New York city, the birth of Isaac L. Hart occurred on the ninth of August, 1843. He is the son of Elijah and Margaret (Stanton) Hart, both of whom came from old families of the Empire state. In 1850 the Harts departed from the American metropolis to seek a home in the young but vigorous city of Chicago. The journalistic spirit was first engendered within the youthful Isaac L. Hart in the office of the Chicago Times in 1853, where his first duties were those of office boy. He was in the course of several years identified with several of the other well-known early papers of Chicago, and from his experience he recalls many interesting

and amusing anecdotes of Chicago's early-day newspapers, when they were printed on the old style presses and the mechanical departments were crudely equipped.

The great sectional struggle came on and the best blood of the nation was called upon for a sacrifice that the union might be preserved. On August 7, 1862, Mr. Hart enlisted in company C, Seventy-second Illinois infantry, and served in that command until 1864. In the two years of army service he participated in a number of the memorable engagements of Grant's army in the southwest, up to and including the battles and siege of Vicksburg. After the siege of Vicksburg the Seventy-second Illinois was sent to Natchez, Mississippi, and in 1864 Mr. Hart was mustered from the military service to accept a clerkship in the government custom house at Natchez, which place he held for a little over a year.

At the conclusion of his term of government service our subject returned to Chicago, where he continued to reside until 1870. In that year Mr. Hart moved to Eldora, Iowa, in which town he published the Herald, a paper he conducted until the commencement of his career in Pipestone county. The Star was established in June, 1879, and has since continued under the same management. During the blizzardy winter of 1880-81, when Pipestone was shut off from intercourse with the outside world for eighty days, the Star never missed an issue, but appeared sometimes on brown wrapping paper, at other times on wall paper—anything that was most convenient. For a number of years the Star published a daily issue, but now is a semi-weekly and is one of the influential publications of southern Minnesota.

During his long residence in the county Mr. Hart has given unselfishly of his time and talent to the end of a greater and better Pipestone county. He was the first judge of probate, having been elected to the office in 1879 and having served one term. He is widely known in the Masonic circles of the state, and is a past grand high priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons. Mr. Hart is a charter member of Quarry Lodge No. 148, A. F. & A. M., Triune Chapter No. 51, R. A. M., and Hope Lodge No. 89, I. O. O. F., in all of which he

has held the highest stations. Of Simon Mix Post No. 95, G. A. R., he is an ex-post commander.

On May 4, 1865, Isaac L. Hart was married to Mary E. Gardner, of Chicago, the daughter of Charles and Ellen Gardner. To this union have been born the following six children: Gardner E., a newspaper man of San Diego, California; Lillian G. (Mrs. L. H. Dibble), of Faribault, Minnesota; Mabel G. (Mrs. George W. Smith), of Coffeyville, Kansas; Charles G., Ralph G., the editor of the Star; and Kittie G.

ED. MILAR (1879) was one of the very first settlers of eastern Altona township, where he has dwelt and labored continuously for more than thirty years. He was born in Henry county, Illinois, on October 30, 1862, the son of Michael and Mary (Lupher) Milar. The father was a native of Ohio, and of English and Irish parentage, while the mother came from Germany.

Four years after the birth of our subject Michael Milar sold his holdings in Henry county and with his family moved to Cass county, Missouri, where he engaged in farming and lumbering until called by death in 1876. Immediately after that family bereavement Mrs. Milar disposed of the Missouri property and with her children became a resident of Minnesota. After a three years' residence in Goodhue county, the Milars, nothing daunted by the hardships and dangers of a new country, in 1879 established a home in Pipestone county. The valiant mother homesteaded the southwest quarter of section 12, Altona. In 1883 Ed. bought his mother's homestead right to the quarter, proved up on the same and has since developed it into one of the banner farms of the precinct. Mr. Milar is also the owner of a quarter of section 13.

Mrs. Milar passed away from this life in 1902. She was the mother of a family of nine children, four sons and five daughters, six of whom died from diphtheria. Our subject was the second youngest child. He is unmarried.

SEVERT B. DUEA (1887), of Ruthton, was the able representative of the sixteenth district, comprising the counties of Rock and

Pipestone, in the lower house of the state legislature during the years 1909-10 and in the state senate 1910-1914. He is a prominent man of affairs in his home community and in the county at large. He is a Ruthton banker and at present is serving as the treasurer of that village.

Severt B. Duea is one in a family of nine children, one of whom is deceased, and the son of Sam C. and Betsy (Wierson) Duea, both of whom came to this country from their native land of Norway early in life. They were married in Story county, Iowa, where for many years Mr. Duea served as the superintendent of the county poor farm. The family moved to Pipestone county and Eden township in 1887, in which precinct Sam C. Duea owned and farmed a half section of land until his death in November, 1902. Betsy (Wierson) Duea died at the home of her son, W. C. Duea, in Ihlen in the spring of 1911.

In the town of Roland, Story county, Iowa, on February 13, 1876, occurred the nativity of our subject. Severt was eleven years of age when the family departed from Iowa and became residents of Pipestone county. He was educated in the district schools of Eden township and in the public schools of Jasper, and early in life became the molder of his own fortune. He secured his first employment at the little village of Ihlen as driver of the wagon for the village grocer. For a number of years thereafter he was located in Pipestone, where he clerked in the stores of Sommerville Bros. and the Minneapolis store. For four years he managed the business of the Northwestern Elevator company at that point.

In 1901 Mr. Duea established his residence in Ruthton. He entered the employ of the Bank of Ruthton as bookkeeper, and when that institution was later reorganized into the First National Bank of Ruthton he bought an interest and was elected to the cashiership of the bank, a position he still holds. Mr. Duea is also president of the State Bank of Ihlen. He owns farm property in Pipestone and Murray counties and is a stockholder in the Farmers Co-operative association of Ruthton, which he serves as treasurer. He is prominent in fraternal circles and holds membership in the Blue Lodge, Chapter and Commandery

of the Masons, in the Knights of Pythias order and the Modern Woodmen lodge.

Severt B. Duea has been twice married. His first wife was Jennie Stuart, the daughter of Duncan Stuart, upon whose farm west of Pipestone the marriage ceremony was solemnized March 15, 1901. Mrs. Duea died October 6, 1902, five days after the birth of a son, Duncan Stuart Duea. Our subject was united in marriage the second time on February 6, 1907, in Ruthton, to Frances Allen. A son was born to these parents at the Willard hotel in St. Paul on February 27, 1909, Mr. Duea being a member of the legislature at the time. The baby boy was named Willard, after the hostelry in which his birth occurred.

HORACE H. GILMORE (1878), one of the pioneers of Sweet township, lived continuously for thirty-two years on the farm, the southeast quarter of section 34, which he homesteaded in 1878. He has now retired from active pursuits after an industrious and fruitful career and lives in the city of Pipestone, where he bought property and moved in the fall of 1910. His well improved farm is now conducted by his son, Charles C. Gilmore.

The parents of our subject were Edward and Sarah (Doty) Gilmore, both natives of Vermont. They were married in their native state and moved to Wisconsin in an early day. Eight children were born to this revered couple, the following four of whom are still living: Wilson, of Lyndon, Wisconsin; Allen, of Lyndon; Sophronia (Mrs. Charles Bentley), of Pipestone; and Horace H., of this review. William B., a twin brother of Wilson, died in Pipestone in 1906. Another son, Lafayette, died after having served his country in the civil war. An older son and a daughter also died many years ago.

Horace H. Gilmore was born in Jefferson county, Wisconsin, April 25, 1846. He left the home farm at the age of eighteen years and went to Juneau county, in the same state, and there entered the employ of the T. W. Weston Lumber company. In the summer seasons he worked with a lumber crew on the Wisconsin river, and during the winter months the work took him to the pineries. Men were wanted to pre-

serve the union, and in 1864 Mr. Gilmore forsook personal interest and enlisted in company E, Forty-first Wisconsin regiment, and served until the cessation of hostilities.

The new county of Pipestone was most desolate in appearance when our subject determined to establish a home within its borders. He drove the entire distance from Lyndon, Wisconsin, in the spring of 1878 and homesteaded the land which was to be the scene of his activities for so many years. He hauled lumber from Luverne with which to build his first dwelling. The hardships of pioneer life fell in due portion to the lot of Mr. Gilmore, and he admits that had it not been for the courage and optimism of his wife he would have deserted the country, as did so many of the early settlers who experienced no counteraction to the discouragements. During the memorable blizzardy winter of 1880-81 Mrs. Gilmore was absent from her husband for nine weeks. She was visiting at Luverne, and it was utterly impossible for her to return home by any means whatsoever before the end of that period. That winter hay was synonymous with fuel and the settlers considered themselves lucky to have a supply on hand. Mr. Gilmore has never aspired to office. He was elected to the chairmanship of the township board in the early days but refused to qualify. He served as school director for more than twenty years.

At Kilbourn City, Wisconsin, on November 17, 1874, Horace H. Gilmore was wedded to Eliza Donaldson. She was born in Baraboo, Wisconsin, but in 1854, at the age of five years, moved with her parents to Lyndon, Juneau county, of the same state. She was engaged in teaching school in Juneau county from 1866 until 1874. Mrs. Gilmore is a sister of Mrs. P. J. Kniss, the wife of one of the founders of Luverne. She is a member of the Baptist church. To Mr. and Mrs. Gilmore have been born two sons, Robert E. and Charles C., both of Sweet township.

DAVID WILLIAMS (1879), proprietor of the Pioneer Stock Farm, located on section 18, Elmer township, has passed all except the first eight years of his life as a resident of Pipestone county. He is one of

the largest stock raisers in the precinct and devotes special attention to the breeding of Poland China hogs and Shropshire sheep.

David Williams was born in Green Lake county, Wisconsin, on August 25, 1871, the son of Cadwalder and Jane (Jones) Williams, now of Trosky. Both parents are natives of Wales. Our subject was three years of age when the family moved from Wisconsin and made settlement in Minnesota. They were located in Fillmore county until June, 1879; then they journeyed overland to Pipestone county, then just opening for settlement. The father homesteaded the southeast quarter of section 17, Elmer, but for a few years the Williams family lived with a family named Jones. The first year's crop became food for the grasshoppers.

Cadwalder Williams traded a team of horses for the northeast quarter of section 18, Elmer, and in an old sod shanty that had been moved from near Luverne the family made their first home. David was employed by his father until 1895, when he rented the home farm and has since conducted it. He later bought eighty acres on section 18 and now farms 240 acres. Mr. Williams was one of the organizers of the Elmer Rural Telephone company in 1908 and is now its president. He has been a supervisor of Elmer township since 1908 and for six years has been the treasurer of school district No. 65.

At Pipestone, on November 27, 1900, the subject of this review was joined in marriage to Lilly May Langei, the daughter of Lars J. and Mary Langei, of Flandreau, South Dakota. Mrs. Williams was born in Lone Rock township, Moody county, South Dakota, August 22, 1879. To this union have been born four children: Milton Leroy, born September 7, 1901; Helen Myrtle, born May 16, 1903; Hazel Harriet, born May 12, 1905; and Harry Ellery, born December 19, 1908.

WILLIAM J. DODD (1878) is a Pipestone county pioneer of 1878, one who has lived continuously since then on land he homesteaded in Osborne township. That town is indebted to Mr. Dodd for the name it bears. He suggested the name Osborne in

honor of a cousin, J. C. Osborne, of Newark, New Jersey.

A native of Ulster county, New York, William J. Dodd was born September 23, 1856, the son of Jared and Eliza (Coral) Dodd. The father was born in New Jersey of English descent, and the mother was a New Yorker, the daughter of Dutch and German parents. The family moved to Sauk county, Wisconsin, in 1861. On a farm which his father bought in that county William was reared and was educated in the primitive schools of those days. In 1878, with his brother, George D. Dodd, he came to Pipestone county, then just opening for settlement. The two brothers filed claims to adjoining homesteads, George taking as his allotment the southwest quarter of section 2, Osborne township, and our subject filing on the northwest quarter of the same section. The former later disposed of his holdings to William J. Dodd, who is now the owner of a half section of Pipestone county's choicest soil.

The Dodds came to this locality in ample time to undergo the bitter experiences of the grasshopper scourge. They did not, however, lose more than one crop. Mr. Dodd has been unusually successful in his stock raising ventures. He maintains a large herd of choice breeds, making a specialty of the Polled Angus and Durham cattle and the Duroc-Jersey hog. He has served five years on the township board and for four years was a school director. Fraternally he is a Modern Woodman.

The marriage of our subject to Flora J. Bacon occurred in Sauk county, Wisconsin, February 20, 1884. Mrs. Dodd was born in Baraboo, the county seat, on April 2, 1857. For ten years she was a teacher in the public schools of that place. She is the daughter of Ira Bacon, who was born in Michigan of Scotch and English parentage, and Helen (Nethaway) Bacon, a native of New York and of English and German ancestry. One daughter, Nellie E. N., was born to Mr. and Mrs. Dodd, on June 23, 1890.

CHARLES H. SMITH (1878), of Pipestone, is a homesteader and one of the pioneer settlers of Pipestone county. He was born in Hesia, Germany, April 4, 1843. His

father, Jacob Smith, died in the old country, and his mother, Maria (Wirth) Smith, died in Wisconsin.

Mr. Smith came alone to the United States in 1857 and located at Lancaster, Grant county, Wisconsin, where he worked in a flouring mill and engaged in farming until 1862. On February 12 of that year he enlisted at McGregor, Iowa, in company H, first battalion, Sixteenth United States infantry, and served in the army until his muster out in June, 1865, at Louisville, Kentucky. For a time he served in the army of Ohio, under General Buell, and later he was in the army of the Cumberland, in the Fourteenth army corps. He took part in the battles of Shiloh, on April 7, 1862; Perryville, Kentucky; Stone's River, Tennessee; Hoover's Gap, Tennessee; Chickamauga, Georgia; Missionary Ridge, Georgia; Buzzard's Roost, Georgia; Resaca, Georgia; Peach Tree Creek, Atlanta; Jonesboro, Georgia; and the engagements in the Atlantic campaign. At the battle of Chickamauga he received a scalp wound but continued in the service.

After his muster out Mr. Smith returned to Grant county, but in September, 1865, located in Winona, Minnesota. After spending six months there, he went to Minneapolis, where he remained one year. Our subject then returned to Grant county, Wisconsin, where he resided until 1875, engaged in the grocery and meat business. Mr. Smith engaged in the same business at New Albion, Iowa, two years and in 1877 became a resident of Vernon county, Wisconsin. On the seventeenth day of April, 1878, Mr. Smith arrived in Pipestone county, where he has ever since resided. He took as a homestead claim the northwest quarter of section 26, Gray township, and resided there until 1893, since which time he has lived in Pipestone. He conducted a grocery and meat store in the county capital until 1898.

Mr. Smith was elected clerk of the district court in 1898 and held the office during the next eight years. He served as deputy sheriff under Sheriff Lake one year and now holds the position by appointment by Sheriff Shepherd. Mr. Smith has held other local offices. He was clerk of Gray township from the date of organization until he moved from the precinct, and he was

treasurer of school district No. 13 for many years. For two years he was justice of the peace in Pipestone. Mr. Smith is a member of the Presbyterian church. He is a charter member of Hope Lodge No. 89, I. O. O. F., is a member of Quarry Lodge, A. F. & A. M., and is secretary of the local order of the Royal Arch Masons. He also holds membership in Simon Mix Post No. 98, G. A. R., and is aid de camp of the national encampment.

At West Prairie, Vernon county, Wisconsin, on August 30, 1878, Mr. Smith was united in marriage to Kate L. Schoenberger, who was born in Germany June 22, 1845, and who came to the United States ten years later. Three children have been born to this union as follows: Nettie May (Mrs. Ross M. Nason), of Antlers, Colorado; Fred C. O., who died in Minneapolis in October, 1898, while a member of company M, of the Fifteenth Minnesota infantry; and Edith Estella, of Pipestone.

GUTTERM GUNDBALDSEN (1878) is one of the homesteaders of Eden township, and he has maintained an uninterrupted residence of thirty-three years on the land he laid claim to in 1878, the southwest quarter of section 24, range 47. A native Minnesotan, he was born in Houston county June 19, 1856, the son of Gundvald and Margretta (Arneson) Gutterson, both natives of Hallingdal, Norway.

The parents of our subject immigrated to the United States at an early day, and after residing in Wisconsin for four years settled in Houston county. Gutterm resided on the home farm until twenty-two years of age, when he commenced his career in the then new and undeveloped Pipestone county. Mr. Gundvaldsen is an extensive breeder of high grade stock. He owns stock in the Farmers Elevator company of Jasper and is a member of the United Lutheran church. He has been a school director for four years.

Mr. Gundvaldsen met with a bitter experience in the blizzard of winter of 1888. On the twelfth day of January he had been to Pipestone and was on the return home when the storm overtook him, with no shelter in sight. All night long he was forced to remain in a straw stack by the

roadside. This exposure nearly cost him his life. He did not reach home until late in the afternoon of the following day.

The subject of this biography was married in Pipestone June 19, 1882, to Tonetta Michaelson, a native of Norway. She was born September 28, 1856, and is the daughter of Christian and Engebor (Mengsole) Michaelson, of Hedemarken, Norway. To these parents have been born the following seven children: Christian I., born June 16, 1885; Gerhart T., born February 26, 1887; Almer N., born April 21, 1891; Ellert, born February 28, 1904; Gina M., born May 15, 1883; Enga S., born October 11, 1895; and Teha J., born February 20, 1897.

ROBERT M. DOUGHTY (1879), the genial boniface of Doughty's hotel, Holland, is one of Pipestone county's very earliest settlers and has been an interested observer of and an active participant in many of the events of transformation from a barren waste to the present land of fruitful acreage. He was born near Springfield, Illinois, on January 17, 1847, and is one in a family of nine children. His parents, Robert and Lydia (Adams) Doughty, were natives of Indiana, in which state they lived until 1854, the date of the former's death. The mother and her children then moved to Savannah, Illinois, and a year later to Winona county, Minnesota. Mrs. Doughty was later a Pipestone county resident and died in 1897, at the age of seventy-eight years, at Claremont, Minnesota.

Robert M. Doughty of this review became a resident of Pipestone county in 1879, coming at that time via the prairie schooner route from Olmsted county, Minnesota. He filed a homestead claim in February, 1879, to the southeast quarter of section 26, Fountain Prairie township. His first abode was a crude 14x24 feet dug-out, covered with reeds, coarse grass and hay, for there was not a stick of lumber to be found. In the fearful blizzards of the winter of 1881 Mr. Doughty lost all his live stock. His dug-out was buried in mammoth snow drifts, and it was only after the most laborious effort that an egress to the outer world was made by means of steps

hewn out of the icy whiteness. The only fuel available through the long and dreary winter was twisted hay, and the only bread making material was ground in a coffee-mill.

Settlers were few and far between in those formative days of the county. During the first few years Mr. Doughty's nearest neighbors were Ed. Giles, the present postmaster of Holland; Matthias Hick, a Mr. Hines and Pat Sweeney. The lumber with which he built his first "real" house was hauled from Marshall, Lyon county. Until the Southern Minnesota railroad was built to Pipestone Mr. Doughty's nearest trading point was Tracy. Not a tree or sign of habitation was there in the fourteen miles which intervened between the claim of our subject and the infant village of Pipestone.

Mr. Doughty worked zealously in the improvement of his Fountain Prairie homestead, and after residing upon it for seven years, he sold at a good profit and then bought the northeast quarter of section 12, Grange township, the land upon which the village of Holland is located. He lived on the place two years and then disposed of the same to the promoters of the Holland townsite. Mr. Doughty next invested in a half section of Aetna township land, upon which he lived for eighteen years, or until 1902, when he built and assumed the control of Doughty's hotel. He sold his Aetna township property in 1908, but he still owns a farm in Rock township, the northwest quarter of section 18—land he purchased over twenty years ago.

Fountain Prairie township was not organized until the year following Mr. Doughty's settling there. He was one of the organizers of the school district of his locality and served as its first treasurer. He was a member of the Aetna township board fourteen years.

Robert M. Doughty was married at Rochester, Minnesota, on December 10, 1870, to Nettie C. Franklin, a direct descendant of Benjamin Franklin. She was born in Livingston county, Michigan, July 4, 1857, and is the daughter of Shuble K. and Chloe (Mason) Franklin. Mr. and Mrs. Doughty are the parents of the following five living children: Charlie A.,

Gertrude L. (Mrs. Patrick Sullivan), of Pipestone; Lydia (Mrs. J. W. Watt), of Burk county, North Dakota; Robert E. and May D. (Mrs. Leonard Avery), of Aetna township. One daughter, Nettie (Mrs. Henry Mortensen), died January 29, 1908.

W. M. LUDKE (1878), who with W. W. Foster was the very first to homestead land in Rock township, has maintained a continuous residence in that precinct since April, 1878. A few other settlers came later in the season. Mr. Ludke did not put in a crop the first year, and it was perhaps just as well, for promise of even a meager yield was destroyed by the ravages of the grasshoppers. He broke land and put in his first crop in 1879. His first dwelling in the new country was a 12x16 feet board shanty, covered with sods.

Near the city of Berlin, Germany, on November 22, 1853, Mr. Ludke was born. His father, Charles Ludke, died in July, 1903, but his mother, Minnie (Tesky) Ludke, is living and resides at Oshkosh, Wisconsin. In the spring of 1854 the Ludke family departed from Germany and made settlement in the new world. They were located for the first four or five years in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, which at that time was simply an over-grown village. From Milwaukee they went to Fond du Lac county, where our subject resided until he moved to Pipestone county. He was reared on a farm and acquired an education offered by the country schools. He commenced working out on farms in the vicinity of his home at the age of eighteen. The land which Mr. Ludke homesteaded and which is his home to this day is the southeast quarter of section 10, Rock. With many other hardy pioneers he was forced to struggle against the disastrous prairie fires and dreaded blizzards, events which tried men's souls and proved their calibre.

It was Mr. Ludke who circulated the petition which resulted in the organization of Rock township, and at the first election he was chosen one of the supervisors. For eight terms he was a valued member of that governing body. He has always been deeply interested in the welfare and improvement of the county educational system and for many years lent of his ener-

getic spirit as a member of the board of district No. 7. He is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen lodge at Woodstock.

Mr. Ludke is a man of family. His first wife, whom he married in Winona county, Minnesota, in March, 1878, died in the fall of the same year. On May 13, 1880, he was joined in marriage to Carrie Goodman, a native Minnesotan. She was born in Fillmore county January 10, 1864. Mr. and Mrs. Ludke are parents of the following named children: Minnie (Mrs. James Wadland), of Canada, born September 21, 1883; Emma (Mrs. Adolph Voght), of South Dakota, born June 28, 1886; Elva, of Idaho, born July 9, 1888; William, born June 19, 1894; Florence, born March 1, 1896; Walter, born January 23, 1901; and Fred, born April 8, 1903. One son, Charlie, is deceased. He was born June 26, 1890, and died April 15, 1892.

JAMES F. DELANEY (1877), of Woodstock, is an early settler of Pipestone county and has enjoyed a continuous residence in the county since he was a youth of sixteen years. He is a native of the North Star state and was born in Blue Earth City, Faribault county, September 27, 1861.

With his parents James moved to Pipestone county in 1877, and for thirty-two years following he was a leading agriculturist of Osborne and Burke townships. He bought the northeast quarter of section 5, Osborne, the nucleus of later land holdings. He has been the owner of an additional eighty acres on section 5, an eighty on section 4, and 240 acres on section 33, Burke township. He still retains possession of these lands, with the exception of a quarter on section 5, Osborne. He made substantial improvements on all his farms, and since moving to Woodstock in 1909, the farming interests have been conducted by Frank and Ray, sons of James F. Delaney.

Mr. Delaney became a resident of Woodstock to assume the management of the Farmers Elevator company, a successful co-operative concern in that village. He also engages in buying and shipping live stock in partnership with John Hoog. Mr. Delaney is treasurer of the Farmers Grain

Dealers association of the state of Minnesota. For many years he has been a school director of Osborne township.

In Luverne, on November 6, 1883, our subject was joined in marriage to Lizzie Lynch, a native of Fillmore county, Minnesota, who was born May 6, 1866. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Delaney, as follows: Frank, Nellie and Ray. The family are members of the Catholic church.

EDWARD W. DAVIES (1879), a Welshman by parentage and an Englishman by birth is Edward W. Davies. He is the only surviving son of John and Elizabeth (Owens) Davies, natives of Wales, who settled over the border in Shropshire, England, a few years before the birth of our subject, which occurred April 5, 1855. Two years later, in July, 1857, the family departed from Britain and embarked in a sailing vessel, which consumed six weeks in the journey to America. The Davies resided for a time in Canada, then in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and later settlement was made in Rock county, Wisconsin. There Edward lived ten years and there he acquired his first taste for learning.

The family became residents of Minnesota in 1869. They came as pioneers to Jackson county, where the father, John Davies, homesteaded land in Middletown township, and there our subject grew to manhood and finished his education in the back-woods school. At the age of twenty-one Edward W. Davies set out from home to see what the world had in store for him. His first employment was a clerkship in the store of the pioneer merchant of Jackson, Minnesota. He was for two years the deputy in the office of the county treasurer and then accepted a position to manage the yard of the C. L. Colman Lumber company, which was established at the new town of Lakefield. It was nothing but a bare townsite in July, 1879, and the very first building erected was the office of the Colman Lumber company, which young Davies himself built. He is also credited with the naming of Lakefield.

The occasion for the settlement of Mr. Davies in Pipestone came through his connection with the lumber company. He

was transferred to the management of the yard at the then infant village of Pipestone, a position he filled for seven years. His banking career commenced November 23, 1886. At that time he acquired an interest in the Pipestone County Bank, now the Pipestone State Bank, was made its cashier, and four years later was promoted to the presidency, an office in which he has continued to the present day. He is one of the principal stockholders in this strong financial institution and is also interested in banks at Jasper, Woodstock and Ruthton, all in Pipestone county. Mr. Davies has served several terms on the city council, and for the past twelve years has been a member of the board of county commissioners. He is prominent in Masonic lodge circles, holding membership in the Blue Lodge, Commandery and Shrine.

John and Elizabeth (Owens) Davies, the parents of our subject resided on the old Jackson county homestead until 1886, when they settled in the village of Jackson, where they both passed to their reward after having spent lives of fruitful effort and charity. Mrs. Davies died in February, 1907, at the age of eighty-six years, and Mr. Davies, in October, 1909, at the age of seventy-nine.

The marriage of Edward W. Davies to Nellie G. King, the daughter of William V. and Antonette L. (Porter) King, early settlers of Jackson county, was solemnized at Jackson on January 5, 1881. Mrs. Davies was born in Walworth county, Wisconsin, on Christmas day, 1858. The following two living children have been born to this union: Kittie A., born December 27, 1884; and Bonnie, born April 17, 1907.

JOHN A. KLINSING (1879) is one of two residents of Sweet township who still reside on and are actively engaged in the farming of their original homesteads. The other early settler is Joseph Crawford. Mr. Klinsing drove through to Pipestone county from Wisconsin and homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 32, Sweet township, in June, 1879. He prospered and fifteen years ago added to his original holding by the purchase of the southwest quarter of section 29.

John is the son of Nicholas and Mary (Honsinger) Klinsing, who came to America from their native land of Germany shortly after their marriage. They first located in Milwaukee and later made settlement in Dane county, Wisconsin, where the father died. Mrs. Klinsing was married a second time to William F. Lang and died in 1894.

Our subject was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, on January 31, 1855. He was early thrown upon his own resources and was employed at agricultural labor until he located in Pipestone county, at the age of twenty-four years. His first crops in the new country were devastated by the grasshoppers and he was forced to seek other employment to meet living expenses.

Mr. Klinsing hauled the lumber to build the first house on his farm from Luverne. He was one of the hay-burners during the long, disastrous winter of 1880-81. On several occasions during that season he journeyed to Pipestone on snow shoes to get supplies, but the only staple to be secured at any price was "black-strap." Mr. Klinsing vividly recalls the burial of a child of Al. Lincoln, who lived on the southeast quarter of the section on which his farm was located. The child met death as the result of a scalding. The few neighbors, traveling on snow shoes, gathered at the Lincoln home to perform the last sad rites. Food was a scarce article, and after the child was buried in the yard the company ground wheat in the coffee-mill and made bread. That was one of the earliest burials in the history of the county. The grave, still intact, is located on the farm now owned by Peter Johannsen.

In June, 1894, Mr. Klinsing fell victim to the fury of a disastrous cyclone. The roof of the farm residence was blown away level with the top of the stairs, the granary was blown down, the barn totally destroyed, and other buildings damaged to a greater or less extent. One steer was killed and a horse, which was carried forty rods by the force of the wind, was badly crippled. The only one of the family to suffer injury was Mr. Klinsing, who was struck by a wagon seat which inflicted a slight wound on his head. This misfortune was made all the harder to bear be-

cause of the poor crops, due to a dry year.

Our subject was married in Pipestone on March 25, 1880, to Mary Niermeier, a native of Dane county, Wisconsin. Seven children have been born to these parents, of whom five survive. A daughter, Ida, died April 17, 1908, and a son, Richard, died in infancy. The names of the other children are Rose (Mrs. L. L. Pritchett), of Herrick, South Dakota; Charles Henry and William Frank, of Sweet township; and Bessie and Clarence Paul, who reside at home.

Mr. Klinsing is an ex-member of both the township and school boards and is overseer of his road district. He is a stockholder in the farmers' elevators at Pipestone and Ihlen and holds membership in the A. O. U. W. lodge at Jasper.

ALVA C. SMITH (1878), a progressive and long established farmer of Fountain Prairie township, dates his residence in the county from the year of its first settlement. His parents, Clark W. and Phoebe (Carpenter) Smith, natives of Pennsylvania and New York, respectively, settled in an early day in Vernon county, Wisconsin, where occurred the birth of our subject on February 6, 1872.

Alva was in his sixth year when the Smith family established a home in the new Pipestone county. The father homesteaded the southeast quarter of section 12, Fountain Prairie, which since then has been the home of our subject. He was educated in the district schools and for a year was a student at Avon, New York. Mr. Smith works the home farm. He owns the northeast quarter of the same section, which he secured in 1894 as a tree claim. All the land is thoroughly improved. Mr. Smith is a large stock raiser and makes a specialty of Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs.

Alva C. Smith has contributed much time and energy to the promotion of the community's welfare. For two terms he served on the board of county commissioners. He was an organizer of the farmers' elevators at both Holland and Ruthton. He was the first president of the Holland company and has been the only vice president of

the organization in Ruthton. Fraternally he is a Mason and Modern Woodman.

Mr. Smith was married on Christmas day, 1904, to Jessie Warner, who was born in Iowa, the daughter of N. S. and Emily Warner, natives, respectively, of Ohio and Michigan. There are two children from this union: Raymond, born July 17, 1906; and Clark, born December 4, 1908.

LORENZO W. KINGSBURY (1882), secretary and treasurer of the Edgerton Flouring Mill company, a leading enterprise of that flourishing Pipestone county village, has been identified with the county's interests since the very earliest period of its settlement. It was on the homestead of his brother, Alonzo D. Kingsbury, the northeast quarter of section 28, Osborne, that the town of Edgerton was platted. Charles H. Kingsbury was another brother who is counted among the worthy pioneers of Edgerton.

The parents of our subject, Charles W. and Louisa (Stocker) Kingsbury, natives respectively of Massachusetts and New York, were early settlers of Independence, Iowa, and died at Littleton, Iowa, where they are buried. At Independence, on September 14, 1862, Lorenzo W. Kingsbury was born. Six other children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Kingsbury, one of whom, Chester B., is deceased, having died in 1909. The remaining members of the family are Alonzo D., of Quartermaster Harbor, Washington; Carrie M., of Gig Harbor, Washington; Charles H., of Edgerton; Edwin J., of Independence, Iowa; and Alvin C., of Gig Harbor, Washington.

For the first several years after casting his lot in Pipestone county Mr. Kingsbury engaged in agricultural pursuits; then in company with his brother Alonzo he built and for three years operated Edgerton's first creamery. He retired from that business to become a blacksmith, an occupation he followed in Edgerton seven years. Mr. Kingsbury was later a general merchant, so engaged for a period of four years. In February, 1909, he became a member of the firm controlling the Edgerton flour mill and has since served as secretary and treasurer of the company. Under the new management the mill has

been thoroughly remodeled, and for its manufactured products there is a wide and increasing demand.

The Edgerton flour mill was built in 1895 by D. J. Forbes, who conducted the enterprise for a number of years. Several changes in ownership followed before the business was finally taken over by the present proprietors in 1909. The officers of the company are: President, Oscar J. Larson; vice president, F. M. Schultz; secretary and treasurer, L. W. Kingsbury. New appliances for high grade flour making have recently been installed, and now sixty barrels per day is the capacity of the plant. The leading brands of flour manufactured by the Edgerton mill are the "Golden Crust" and "Our Friend."

From 1898 to 1904 L. W. Kingsbury served efficiently as Edgerton's assessor. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Masonic and Modern Brotherhood of America lodges. At Edgerton, on September 5, 1898, our subject was married to Emma L. McVenes, a native of Independence, Iowa. She is the daughter of Thomas McVenes, who resides in that Iowa town and is now in his eighty-ninth year.

JAMES ARROWSMITH (1881), of Aetna township, came to Pipestone county as a boy in the early years of the county's history. His parents, Aaron and Elizabeth (Wittel) Arrowsmith, are both buried in the county. The family started life in the new county under most adverse financial conditions, but hard times eventually vanished and there came the dawn of more prosperous days.

Across the sea, in Lancashire, England, on March 28, 1865, was born the subject of this biography. James was reared and educated in the city of Wigan, which was his home until he was seventeen years of age. Then, in 1881, the Arrowsmith family immigrated to America and journeyed direct to Pipestone county, the father homesteading land in section 12, Grange township.

On attaining his majority our subject filed a tree claim to the northeast quarter of section 30, Aetna, and after holding it six years changed the filing to a homestead and proved up on the land. During

that time he lived at home with his parents, working out at intervals. He farmed in Grange township seven years; then in 1897 moved on and commenced the improvement of his homestead. He has a nice home and a well improved farm. He raises considerable stock. Mr. Arrowsmith belongs to the Catholic church of Pipestone and is affiliated with the Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen and Royal Neighbors lodges of Holland. He has served the past seven years as treasurer of school district No. 30.

At Pipestone, on April 4, 1893, Mr. Arrowsmith was married to Julia Dixon who was born in St. Croix county, Wisconsin, August 8, 1872. Her parents, Thomas and Catherine (Conway) Dixon, were Pipestone county pioneers of 1879 and among the earliest homesteaders of Eden township. Mrs. Dixon still lives in that precinct. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Arrowsmith, as follows: Flora, born January 14, 1894; Frank, born November 4, 1895; Catherine, born February 18, 1899; Lloyd, born December 16, 1902; and Myrtle, born February 9, 1905.

C. W. GILMORE (1882), municipal judge of Pipestone, is a prominent member of the Minnesota bar, and in point of residence and continuous practice is the pioneer attorney of Pipestone county. He has lived in the county seat since 1882. Judge Gilmore has presided over the municipal court for five years past. He is an ex-county attorney, an office he held for three terms. He is one of the progressive citizens of the city and county and has been actively identified during his long residence within its borders with many of the movements that have brought Pipestone county to the forefront, industrially, politically and otherwise. Mr. Gilmore was the supervisor for the second Minnesota district of the 1910 federal census.

A native of Potsdam, New York, the subject of this review was born July 8, 1852. In that city he acquired a thorough academic training, and then taught school for several years in the county. In 1874, in the first year of his manhood, he joined the western procession and selected Minnesota as the field for future achievement.

He located at Rochester, where he studied law and where by examination he was admitted to the bar. In 1877 he moved to Mankato and entered upon the practice of his profession. Five years later he made settlement in Pipestone, which has ever since been his home. A public-spirited citizen, he has given of his time and talent to the promotion of the city's every helpful influence. Mr. Gilmore has served as a member of the board of education and for the past six years has been a member of the library board.

Our subject is best known throughout this section of the state as Captain Gilmore, a title he earned for distinguished service in the conflict with Spain. It was largely through his individual efforts that company M, Fifteenth Minnesota regiment, was recruited, and of that company he was elected leader. The company under Captain Gilmore was encamped successively at Camps Ramsey and Snelling, Minnesota; Camp Meade, Pennsylvania; and Camp McKenzie, near Augusta, Georgia. The war ended before there was need of its services at the front.

Mr. Gilmore was married at Rochester in 1878 to Carrie A. Mount, a native Minnesotan. She died May 26, 1894. Two sons, Fred C. and Charles R., of Seattle, Washington, and one daughter, Florence M., were born to this union. Fraternally our subject is a member of the Blue Lodge, Chapter and Commandery branches of the Masonic order; the Elks, and the Modern Woodmen of America.

GEORGE F. LANGE (1879), a pioneer of Eden township, having resided there since he was ten years of age, is one of the most prominent and influential men of affairs in that precinct. A native of Dane county, Wisconsin, he was born January 18, 1869. Both his parents were native Germans. His father, William F. Lange, was born near Berlin on February 8, 1828, came to this country at the age of twenty-seven years, and died December 29, 1894. His mother, Mary (Hoisinger) Lange, who was born May 17, 1830, died February 24, 1909.

The Lange family lived in Dane county until 1879. In June of that year they trav-

eled overland to Pipestone county, and the father at once homesteaded the northeast quarter of section 6, Eden. A small frame house was erected on the claim, and for a number of years they experienced hard times, but prosperity came in due season. Our subject resided on the home farm for fifteen years. In 1893 he married and commenced farming on his own account. For five years he rented the southwest quarter of section 5, Eden, then bought the place and has since lived there. He also owns the northwest quarter of section 8, land he purchased in the fall of 1909, and farms the entire half section. Mr. Lange is a successful stock raiser and makes a specialty of the Chester White hogs.

In the promotion of every worthy enterprise and in matters of local government Mr. Lange has always taken an active interest. For three years he was chairman of the Eden township board and has for four years past been one of the supervisors. He is clerk of school district No. 22, an office to which he was elected six years ago, after having served the district for three years as treasurer. Mr. Lange has been township assessor two years and he was census enumerator for Eden township and Jasper village in 1905. In 1907 he was made a director of the Sweet Township Fire Insurance company, and since 1909 has been the vice president of that strong concern. Our subject owns stock in the farmers' elevators at Ihlen and Jasper and also in the Ihlen State Bank. Fraternally he is a Mason and a Workman, belonging to the lodges of those orders at Jasper. Of the latter lodge he is the master workman. He and his wife are members of the Eastern Star lodge of Jasper. With his family he belongs to the Evangelical church of Sweet township.

The subject of this biography was married October 25, 1893, near Luverne, to Ida Engel, who was born in Rice county, Minnesota, May 22, 1874. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Lange, of whom one, Clifton, is deceased. He was born July 5, 1899, and died January 25, 1907. The names of the three surviving are: Nita, born August 7, 1894; Etta, born January 6, 1897; and Walter, born September 13, 1903.

IVER I. PETERSON (1878) has for thirty-one years been a well known and prominent citizen of Edgerton. The son of Iver and Ingebor (Anderson) Peterson, his nativity occurred in the land of the Norse April 7, 1851. The United States has been his adopted country since he was ten years of age. He made the journey across the broad Atlantic in a sailing vessel which consumed eleven weeks and two days on the trip. His parents had preceded him to this country five years and had taken a homestead in Winneshiek county, Iowa, whither the youthful traveler made his destination.

At the age of eighteen years Iver left home to become a molder of his own fortune. He first went to Lansing, Iowa, where he remained eight years, working in stores and in a lumber yard. Then he married and moved to LaCrosse, Wisconsin. In 1878 he located in Luverne and for awhile conducted a boarding house and worked for the firm of Landin & Nelson. The following year he bought a homestead right in Vienna township, which he retained but a short time, establishing, in 1880, his present residence in the village of Edgerton. He clerked in three different stores before he entered the employ of C. S. Howard, with whom he remained twenty-two years. Since resigning his position with that firm in the spring of 1910, he has devoted his time to the conduct of the variety and grocery store established by his son Clifford H. Peterson two years previous.

In the "snow winter" of 1881, when every road was blocked, Mr. Peterson having been dispatched to Luverne for a supply of tobacco, made the journey of twenty-one miles each way on a pair of Norwegian snowshoes. In those days land could be had for nearly a song. Our subject traded a yoke of two-year-old steers for a quarter section in Battle Plain township, now owned by K. G. Oldre, of Luverne.

In Lansing, Iowa, on September 15, 1872, Iver I. Peterson was married to Lave Allette Hanson, a native of Norway who came to this country ten years after her birth, which occurred in 1856. In the Peterson family are the following four living children: Lula (Mrs. J. C. Bruner), of Globe,

Arizona; Albert, a ball player in the Minnesota-Wisconsin league; Clifford H., of Edgerton; and Walter. Two children, Henry and Mabel, died of scarlet fever at the ages of thirteen and four years respectively. Mr. Peterson owns residence property in Edgerton. A home erected in the early days was in 1909 remodeled and made thoroughly modern.

Mr. Peterson was for two years the assessor of Vienna township, and for the same length of time held the office of village treasurer. In the early days he served as constable. He took the 1910 census in Osborne township and the village of Edgerton. He belongs to the Norwegian Lutheran church and to the K. P. and M. W. A. lodges.

HOWARD J. FARMER (1884) is one of the well known and prosperous farmers and stock raisers of Sweet township, of which he has been a resident for the past twenty-seven years. The home farm, the northeast quarter of section 7, was wild, undeveloped railroad land when it came into the possession of Mr. Farmer in 1884. Improvements in the way of large and substantial buildings and groves have wrought a marvelous change since then. He is also the owner of the northwest quarter of section 8 and eighty acres on section 35, range 47, Troy.

Howard is the oldest son in a family of five children. The four others, Judson L., Annie Malterner, Bertha M. Stiles and Frank B., reside in New York, the native state of our subject. He was born in St. Lawrence county on July 8, 1853. In that county his father, Loren J. Farmer, died in 1874, and his mother, Elizabeth (Johnson) Farmer, in 1853. Both parents were born in Herkimer county, of the Empire state.

Mr. Farmer was educated and grew to manhood in the county of his birth. He taught school for awhile, farmed with his father until becoming of age, and then until 1884 was a St. Lawrence county farmer on his own account. Since the year mentioned Pipestone county has been the scene of his rewarded labors. Mr. Farmer has served his township and county in an official way on several occasions. He

was a member of the township board for a number of years and is treasurer of school district No. 3. He represented his district on the board of county commissioners in the early nineties, was elected to the office of county treasurer in 1896, and served one term. He is the secretary of the Airlie Elevator company, a successful co-operative institution. In a fraternal way Mr. Farmer is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, United Workmen and Modern Woodmen lodges.

On the first day of March, 1877, at Canton, St. Lawrence county, New York, was performed the ceremony which united Howard J. Farmer and Katie L. Farmer in the bonds of matrimony. Mrs. Farmer was born November 4, 1853, in Jefferson county, Wisconsin. They are the parents of five children, as follows: Myra (Mrs. George McCarter), of Grange township; Marion L., Annie G., a bookkeeper in the general offices of the M. B. A., at Mason City, Iowa; Alma, a school teacher; and William P., a student at the State Agricultural school.

JAMES TELFORD (1894) has farmed in Elmer township since 1894. He was born on a small farm in the north of Ireland June 12, 1848, the son of James and Mary Ann (Dobson) Telford. He was only thirteen years of age when he left his home in the Emerald isle and journeyed alone to America. He went to live with an uncle and aunt in New York state, remaining there five years. He was for a time employed in a machine and iron work foundry.

In 1866, at the age of eighteen years, James Telford turned his eyes westward and located in Delaware county, Iowa. For three years he was employed at farm labor; then he married and for a year farmed land on his own account in that Iowa county. He moved to Madison county, Nebraska, in 1871 and pre-empted a quarter section of land. After a three years' struggle against the ravages of the grasshoppers, Mr. Telford deserted the Black Water state and once more became an Iowa farmer. Eight years were spent in Hardin county, three in Franklin county, eight in Sac county; then Minnesota

and Pipestone county became the scene of his labors. He moved to his farm, the southeast quarter of section 23, Elmer, which he had bought the year previous to his removal.

Mr. Telford improved his land but rented and farmed the north half of section 19, Osborne, for eight years; then he farmed all of section 25, Elmer, until 1905, when he built on his own land, since which time he has lived there. In nearly every locality in which our subject has lived since becoming of age, he has served on either the township or school board. For four years he represented his district on the board of county commissioners. Fraternally he is a Knight of Pythias and a Modern Woodman, and with his family he belongs to the Methodist church.

In Delaware county, Iowa, on September 26, 1870, James Telford was joined in marriage to Mary Ann Buck, a Canadian by birth. She was born in September, 1850, the daughter of John and Susanna (Winsor) Buck, both natives of England. Four sons and six daughters have been born to this union, as follows: Ellen E., born September 3, 1871; John, born September 26, 1872; W. James, born January 9, 1875; Ida M., born January 23, 1877; Mary A., born April 20, 1879; Jessie, born September 27, 1881; Bessie, born October 3, 1884; Zoe, born March 12, 1887; Charles, born June 15, 1891; and Shirley, born January 17, 1897.

GEORGE W. NASH (1880) has held the office of register of deeds of Pipestone county continuously since his first election to the office in the fall of 1894. He is one of the early settlers of the county, dating his residence from September, 1880, at which time he was stationed by the Omaha railroad as the second agent at their station of Woodstock. That position he held for twelve years, until 1892, when he engaged in the farm implement business at Woodstock. He was engaged in that business until elected to the office he now holds.

A native of Wayne county, New York, George W. Nash of this review was born October 3, 1849, the son of John and Jerusha A. (Johnson) Nash, both of whom

were also New Yorkers by birth. His mother died fifteen days after George was born and his father died in 1869. By a second marriage John Nash had two sons, one of whom, Oscar Nash, of Monroe county, New York, is still living.

George passed the first twenty-three years of his life in the county of his birth. He then cast his eyes westward and located at Monticello, Iowa, where he learned the telegrapher's trade. He was for several years assistant station agent at Langworthy and Sand Springs, Iowa, and then made his advent to Minnesota, accepting a position as assistant agent with the railroad company at East Henderson. Blue Earth City was his last home before settling in Woodstock.

Mr. Nash was married in Wayne county, New York, on February 17, 1876, to Emma D. Fish, also a native of that county. They are the parents of three children: Thaddeus E., cashier of the Pipestone State Bank; Adah A. and Pearl A. Mr. Nash belongs to the Blue Lodge and the Chapter of the Masonic order, and is also a member of the A. O. U. W. lodge.

WILLIAM ROSCOE (1887) has been a well-known farmer of Altona township since 1887. His 160 acre farm is on section 26. A native of Green Bay, Wisconsin, he was born February 24, 1838, the son of Oliver and Mardeland (Campbell) Roscoe. The mother was a native Minnesotan and was married in that state. The Roscoe family is of French descent who made settlement in Canada, where the father of our our subject, Oliver Roscoe, was born.

William was an infant in his first year when the family moved from Green Bay to Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin. From there, after an eleven or twelve years' residence, they moved to Fort Snelling, Minnesota. At that army post the father, Oliver Roscoe, was employed as blacksmith by the government for eighteen years. The next move was to Red Wing. After a number of years the elder Mr. Roscoe retired from the government service and engaged in farming between Lake City and Wabasha. Our subject assisted with the work on the home farm until

he was twenty-two years of age. Thereafter for nearly ten years he was engaged in lumbering. He settled on his present Altona farm twenty-four years ago.

William Roscoe was married in Wabasha county, Minnesota, on February 16, 1860, to Annie Niehart, a native of Germany. Mrs. Roscoe died in 1905. Four sons and four daughters were born to this union, as follows: Annie (Mrs. Frank Wright), of Moody county, South Dakota, born May 11, 1862; Oliver, of Lincoln county, born August 26, 1864; William J., of Altona township, born December 20, 1869; Ida (Mrs. John Rexroad), of Cass county, Iowa, born April 28, 1871; Charles, of Altona, born September 29, 1873; Burt, of Altona, born May 10, 1877; Cornella (Mrs. Thomas Moran), of Colorado, born October 28, 1880; Mabel, of Colorado, born April 8, 1884.

GILBERT G. GILBERTSON (1879).

Among the substantial and progressive agriculturists of Aetna township is the gentleman whose name heads this review. He owns an entire section of choice land in that precinct and farms it all. As a stock raiser he has achieved eminent success. He makes a specialty of Red Polled cattle, his herd of cattle generally averaging sixty head. In addition he raises not a few hogs, horses and sheep.

A Norwegian by birth, Gilbert was born December 8, 1865, the son of Christ Gilbertson, now of Ruthton, and Bertha (Olson) Gilbertson, who died five years after the birth of our subject. When an infant, in 1867, he crossed the Atlantic with his parents and located with them in Fillmore county, Minnesota, and in the district schools of that county he commenced his education. Christ Gilbertson, the father, journeyed to Pipestone county in the spring of 1878, when the new country was just commencing to be opened up for settlement, and homesteaded in Aetna township on section 28. The rest of the family first viewed the land of their future residence in October, 1879.

Gilbert Gilbertson vividly recalls an incident of the frightful winter of 1880-81, in which he and P. J. Ruen were concerned. They were returning from Lake Benton on

snowshoes, pulling a hand sled loaded with provisions for the snow-bound home, and were within a half mile of the home farm when they were suddenly enveloped in one of the most ferocious storms of the season. It was impossible to gain the house and they floundered about in the open until near midnight, when Providence directed them to a vacant claim shanty belonging to a neighbor. There the young men rested and warmed themselves as best they could. They were then about a mile and a half from home, and during the night they made two futile attempts to reach there. Finding the task of no avail, they camped in the rude shelter until daylight. By that time the fury of the storm was spent and they were able to reach their goal, though only by surmounting great difficulties. As a result of the severe experience, Mr. Gilbertson's feet were badly frozen and he was laid up for the balance of the winter. His companion, Mr. Ruen, however, did not suffer any serious mishaps.

Our subject attended the schools in the Thompson and Smith districts, in Aetna township, and continued to reside on the home farm until the spring of 1888. That season he went to Custer county, North Dakota, and filed on a half-section homestead and timber claim. He passed four years in that country, working in the tie camps and on the railroads in the winter months and doing his best to raise a crop during the summer seasons, but the land was of a most unarable nature and unflagging industry was not rewarded. Mr. Gilbertson took a tie contract in the winter of 1891-92, but the company failed, and in consequence he lost all his hard earned savings. He became disgusted with the ill-fortune which seemed to be the only thing the country offered, abandoned his claim and sought a new location.

In the spring of 1892 Gilbert commenced to mend his fortune in Sheridan, Wyoming. That summer he freighted between the terminus of the B. & M. railroad and the towns of Sheridan and Buffalo. In the fall of the year he bought an interest in a Sheridan hotel, which he retained until the spring of 1893. He was a teamster connected with a tie camp in the Big Horn mountains for a year; then until he

left Wyoming in the spring of 1899 he farmed near Sheridan.

On his return from the west Mr. Gilbertson again located in Pipestone county. He became the partner of his brother, Ole Gilbertson, a liveryman of Ruthton, by buying out the interest of E. K. Gryte. The brothers conducted the enterprise two years; then Ole Gilbertson disposed of his interest to Nels Peterson, and this interest was later transferred to Charles Smith. After an association of a year and a half our subject bought out his partner, Mr. Smith, and until the spring of 1907 he was sole proprietor of the livery business, which he finally traded for land. Since the date last mentioned Mr. Gilbertson has managed his large farming interests in Aetna township. He is an ex-constable of that precinct. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Ruthton.

Gilbert G. Gilbertson has been twice married. On April 14, 1898, he was wedded at Sheridan, Wyoming, to Ella Fryer, a native of Baltimore, Maryland. She was born August 2, 1879, and died in Ruthton August 14, 1899. One child, Bertha Julia, was born to this union, but lived only a few days. On October 7, 1905, at Ruthton, our subject was married to Ragna Emelia Halvorson, the daughter of Hans Peter Halvorson, of Ruthton, and Bertha Marie Halvorson, deceased. Mrs. Gilbertson was born in Mower county, Minnesota, June 2, 1884. These parents have had three children: Rudolph Gordon, born August 15, 1906; Harlon Clifford, born May 26, 1908; and Blanche Irene, who was born June 15, 1907, and died a short time after birth.

GARRISON L. JAYCOX (1873), of Sweet township, is an early day settler of both Rock and Pipestone counties, one who has experienced in full measure the trials and hardships incident to the life of a pioneer, the fighting of prairie fires, the suffering from death-dealing blizzards, and the battling against the ravages of the dread grasshopper scourge. Mr. Jaycox holds the distinction of having invented, with Ole Rolph, the first "hopperdozer" used in Luverne. With that contrivance more than twenty-eight bushels of the pests were taken in one day.

The father of our subject, Abraham Jaycox, of Luverne, is a pioneer of two Minnesota counties. He was married to Nancy LaForge and at an early day settled in Preston township, Fillmore county. There Garrison L. Jaycox of this review was born July 16, 1858. The first fifteen years of his life were passed in the county of his birth. The family decided to establish a home in the new Rock county, and with that intent they made the journey overland, arriving in Luverne June 7, 1873. For three days they camped in the park, but it was not long before Abraham Jaycox was settled on the farm he bought just out of Luverne and which is his home to this day.

Our subject completed his education in the Luverne public schools. For a time he was engaged in freighting from Worthington to Luverne, worked as a thresher, and for two years was with the grading crew that laid the way for the building of the railroad to Luverne. Pipestone county was just opening for settlement in 1879 when Mr. Jaycox came to do the breaking on the tree claim of his father, the northeast quarter of section 28, Sweet township. The following year Garrison filed a homestead claim to the southeast quarter of the same section. He lived on the place for eight years, during most of which time the crops were failures, occasioning hard times.

Mr. Jaycox retired from farming two years, during which time he resided in Luverne and engaged in draying, hauling sand and other manual labor. In 1890 he returned to his Sweet township farm, remained thereon two years, and then moved to the east half of section 24, Troy, land which he farmed for a decade. Burke township became the scene of his activities for two years, then for a similar period he was located in Troy. Mr. Jaycox established his present residence in Sweet seven years ago. He has farmed the northwest quarter of section 2 in that precinct since 1905. Our subject is connected with four fraternal orders, the Modern Woodmen of America, Royal Neighbors of America, Sons of Veterans and Mystic Workers of the World.

Mr. Jaycox vividly recalls the time when 500 Indians, in ugly temper, came from

Yankton and demanded that Pipestone be moved further to the south. The whites presented the savages with a fat ox, to which the redskins did justice in a spectacular barbecue, after which they peacefully made their departure without committing any outrage.

The subject of this biography was married at Luverne on October 2, 1882, to Hattie M. Wood, the daughter of J. E. and Emily (Bates) Wood, both deceased. Hattie M. Wood was born at Athens, Illinois, October 28, 1866. To Mr. and Mrs. Jaycox nine children have been born, all but one of whom, Garrison, who was born October 21, 1899, and who died the same month, are living. Their names are Charles, born August 27, 1883; Etta, born June 22, 1885; Clair, born April 15, 1887; Norman, born January 23, 1889; Wilbur, born March 26, 1890; Hattie, born January 19, 1892; Ruby, born August 17, 1893; and Mildred, born October 5, 1902.

CHARLES F. DITMEYER (1886) is the owner of one of the finely improved farms of Gray township, the southeast quarter of section 19. He has a continued residence of twenty-five years in the county to his credit. A native of Illinois, he was born in Stephenson county April 7, 1864, the son of Richard and Thresie Ditmeyer, both of whom were born in Baden, Germany. They were early day settlers of Stephenson county.

Charles was educated and grew to manhood in the county of his birth. On severing home ties, at the age of twenty-two, he at once commenced his career as a Pipestone county agriculturist. He worked in Elmer township for six months; then for eleven years he rented and farmed the northeast quarter of section 26, Eden township, land which belonged to his father. Since 1896 he has been located on his farm in Gray. Mr. Ditmeyer raises considerable stock. He owns stock in the farmers' elevator at Pipestone and is a director of school district No. 25. Fraternally he is a Modern Woodman.

Mr. Ditmeyer is man of family. He was married in Stephenson county, Illinois, September 6, 1885, to Elmetta Fryberger, a native of that county. She was born

November 20, 1864, the daughter of William and Leah (Taylor) Fryberger. Eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Ditmeyer. They are Bessie, born December 19, 1887; Floyd, born August 24, 1889; Marvin, born September 7, 1891; Ethel, born October 10, 1893; Earl, born August 11, 1895; Beatrice, born March 20, 1898; Leland, born March 1, 1900; and Wesley, born August 11, 1904.

W. H. DICKEY (1878) is one of the old timers whose experiences in Pipestone county date from the spring of 1878. Sparsely settled it was then, and among the few settlers in the future city of Pipestone were Dan Wigham, L. R. Ober, Robert Campbell, Dr. Taylor and Charles H. Bennett. Mr. Dickey has a distinct recollection of hunting prairie chickens on the site of the present city hall, and in the fall of 1880 he pursued five antelope over the prairies. With others he is not likely to forget the winter of 1880-81, when hay was precious as fuel and wheat for bread was ground in the kitchen coffee-mill.

A native of the old Pine Tree state, the subject of this biography was born in Belfast, Maine, November 20, 1841. He was a lad in his eleventh year when his parents followed the tide of western emigration. The family settled in Wisconsin and were located successively in the counties of Dane, Richland and Trempealeau. At the call for arms in the dark days of the sixties Mr. Dickey enlisted at Eau Claire in company C, Eighth Wisconsin volunteer infantry. This was the company that carried old Abe's eagle through three years of the war and participated in thirty-two engagements, among them the battles of Corinth and Pleasant Hill and the siege of Vicksburg.

Upon the declaration of peace Mr. Dickey returned to Wisconsin. He mastered the blacksmith's trade in Jackson county and later followed that line of work in Trempealeau county. He journeyed to southwestern Minnesota in the early seventies to inspect the country. He worked for a short time at his trade in Worthington and was in Luverne when Philo Hawes first located there. He did not make settlement at that time, how-

ever, but returned to Wisconsin and remained there until finally joining the pioneers of Pipestone county in 1878.

Mr. Dickey homesteaded the northeast quarter of section 10, Gray township, in the spring of his arrival. He was the county's first blacksmith and machinist and did all the plow work for miles around in those early days. Even from Rock county farmers would come to "Harrison" Dickey, as he is familiarly known, to have their work done. For the first few years our subject alternated his time between his claim and his shop in the village. In the fall of 1884 he made permanent settlement in Pipestone, where he still continues to ply his craft.

The marriage of Mr. Dickey to Julia Sherwood took place in Trempealeau county, Wisconsin, in November, 1864. To this union have been born the following seven children: Robert, Irvin, Leander, Harry, William, Ella and James.

PAUL SORENSON (1881), is one of the homesteaders and well-known residents of Aetna township. The son of Soren and Annie (Rasmussen) Paulson, he was born in Odense, Denmark, March 21, 1850. In the land of the Danes he acquired his schooling and passed the first twenty-one years of his life.

Mr. Sorenson immigrated to America in early manhood and made St. Louis his destination after arrival. He was employed several months in an iron foundry of that city, then was married and became a resident of Minnesota. He worked on a farm near Winona one summer, then until 1881 was employed at agricultural labor at St. Charles. In the year mentioned our subject became identified with Pipestone county interests. He homesteaded the southwest quarter of section 2, Aetna, and took as a pre-emption the southwest quarter of section 32. On the latter land he lived for several years, then established the home that is his today on the old homestead, one of the thoroughly improved farms of the precinct. Mr. Sorenson devotes considerable attention to the breeding of high grade stock. He was a member of the township board four years.

He is a member of the Danish Lutheran church of Ruthton and is a Workman.

At Kirkwood, Missouri, on September 17, 1873, occurred the marriage of Paul Sorenson to Mary Johanson, who was born in Denmark April 5, 1854, the daughter of Johan and Margretta (Hanson) Peterson. Mrs. Sorenson died May 16, 1910. Two sons and two daughters were born to this union: Annie, born December 24, 1874; Mary, born May 16, 1877; John, born January 17, 1885; and James, born October 22, 1888. Since 1910 John Sorenson has rented and managed the home farm.

O. M. EDSILL (1881) is literally the builder of the town of Cazenovia, of which he is a leading merchant. Every building in the town, with the exception of the railroad property and the elevators, has been erected through his efforts. Mr. Edsill was born in Summit county, Ohio, the first of September, 1859, and is the son of Vincent H. Edsill, of Laporte City, Iowa. The mother of our subject, Mellisa (Burdick) Edsill, died in that Iowa town when he was a boy of thirteen.

Six months after the birth of our subject the Edsill family moved to Winnebago county, Illinois, and shortly after locating there the father, Vincent H. Edsill, enlisted in the union army and served to the close of the sectional struggle. At the restoration of peace the family moved to Laporte City, Iowa, and there Mr. Edsill of this biography grew to maturity and received an education in the village school. At the age of twenty he returned to his former home in Illinois and was employed on a farm until settling in Pipestone county thirty years ago.

Mr. Edsill arrived in Pipestone county in October, 1881, and immediately rented land on section 15, Sweet township, which he farmed two years. He then bought of Close Bros. & Co. the east half of the southwest quarter of section 11, Troy, which he improved and upon which he made his home until 1899. Disposing of his farm property, he bought the Cazenovia general store of Frank Turk, a business he still conducts. Until 1910 he was also manager of the E. A. Brown elevator at that point. Mr. Edsill was assessor of

the town of Troy in 1908. He is a member of the Pipestone Baptist church.

O. M. Edsill has been married twice. Della Warner, a native of Winnebago county, Illinois, became his wife on January 5, 1881. Della (Warner) Edsill was born November 25, 1861, and died September 30, 1893. Three children were born to this union, as follows: Cora Evelyn (Mrs. L. G. Hess), of Mary Hills, Washington, born October 10, 1881, in Winnebago county, Illinois; Fred Loren, of Stevenson, Washington, born December 8, 1883, in Pipestone county; Lee Everett, deceased, born January 2, 1886.

At Pipestone, on June 3, 1908, our subject was married to Rose Chaney, who was born in Elgin, Illinois, December 27, 1879. By a former marriage Mrs. Edsill has two children, Ruth and Lillie.

ALEXANDER RAE (1887) is one of the prominent citizens of the thriving village of Jasper. It has been Mr. Rae's privilege to witness in the fullest degree the transformation of an ordinary expanse of unimproved prairie to a substantial and rapidly developing municipality, second in importance in Pipestone county only to the county seat. He located on the townsite of Jasper the year before the railroad was built to that point, and with his brother he was the first purchaser of town lots, upon which he immediately set out trees and which he otherwise improved.

In "bonnie" Scotland, on April 10, 1867, occurred the birth of Alexander Rae. He was educated in the land of his birth and there also mastered the stone mason's trade. At the age of twenty he severed home ties and became an adopted son of Uncle Sam. For a few months after his arrival to the United States Mr. Rae was located at Westerly, Rhode Island, and then set out for the west, making Dell Rapids, South Dakota, his destination. He was there only a short time when he cast his lot with the pioneers of Jasper. With the exception of a short season spent in the restaurant business at St. Cloud and a summer's residence in Pipestone, Mr. Rae has been permanently located at Jasper. He holds a responsible position at the quarries, and in addition, since the fall of 1909, has

conducted an up-to-date restaurant and confectionery store. Our subject is a Modern Woodman and Knight of Pythias by fraternal affiliation.

At St. Cloud, on January 31, 1894, Alexander Rae was joined in marriage to Sarah Siscely, a native of that city. The following five children have been born to this union: Mary, Stella, Edith, Harold and Irene.

Alexander Rae is the son of George and Barbara (Farquhr) Rae, natives of Scotland who came to America in 1891. Barbara Rae died the next July; George Rae resides in Jasper with his son, Andrew.

LEWIS H. WILSON (1886) is a progressive young business man of the little village of Ihlen, in Eden township. He is postmaster and president and manager of the Ihlen Mercantile company, a business institution incorporated for \$11,000. The present officers of the company, which deals in all kinds of general merchandise, are: President and manager, L. H. Wilson; vice president, L. L. Dale; secretary, H. G. Wilson; treasurer, R. H. O'Connell. The board of directors consists of the officers mentioned, with the addition of Joseph Evenson.

Lewis H. Wilson was born in Hamilton county, Iowa, April 13, 1882, and four years later settled in Pipestone county with his parents. His father bought the northwest quarter of section 15, Eden township, upon which our subject grew to manhood. His education in the Ihlen village school was supplemented by a course in the Red Wing preparatory college. In 1905 he entered the employ of the Ihlen Mercantile company as a clerk, and was with the concern only a year and a half when he was promoted to the responsible position he now holds. Mr. Wilson is also a stockholder in the South Dakota Rural Telephone company and in the Farmers Elevator company of Ihlen. He is one of the directors of the first named organization. He owns a half interest in a 240 acre farm, one-half mile west of Ihlen.

Lewis is the oldest in a family of eight children born to Jacob F. and Martha (Sheldahl) Wilson. One of the children, James L., is dead, but the other seven are all residents of the county. Their names are Gerard E., Anna C., Bessie M., Helen L.,

Mabel F. and Martin B. Jacob F. Wilson was born in Norway in 1855 and came to this country at the age of fourteen years. He married Martha Sheldahl, a native of Story county, Iowa, where he resided prior to settling in Pipestone county in 1886. Mr. Wilson died on his Eden township farm December 16, 1907. He is survived by his wife, who still resides on the old home farm.

At Hanley Falls, Yellow Medicine county, Minnesota, on June 30, 1908, occurred the marriage of Lewis H. Wilson to Hilda Anderson, who was born in the county of her marriage June 16, 1884. One son, Rufus J., was born to these parents, on July 16, 1909.

HOWARD W. FOOTE (1881) is the manager of the Coffey elevator and grain business at Trosky. He was born in Oxford, Herkimer county, New York, June 26, 1855, the son of Burton and Maria (Whitehead) Foote, both of whom are dead. The former was born in the Empire state and the latter was a native of England. They were the parents of four children, who, besides our subject, are Asa, of Idaho; Edith (Mrs. C. O. Armstead), of Aitkin, Minnesota; and Elmira, of Fergus Falls.

Howard was four years of age when he moved with his parents to Green Lake, Wisconsin, and that was his home until after his twenty-sixth birthday, most of the time being engaged in agricultural pursuits. In 1881 he settled in Pipestone county. He conducted a farm of Jay LaDue in Elmer township for two years, then filed a tree claim to the northwest quarter of section 26, of the same township, which he improved and lived upon until 1896. That year he went to Aitkin county, Minnesota, home-steaded a claim of sixty-seven acres, to which he added eighty acres by purchase, and made that his home for eight years. He returned to Pipestone county in the summer of 1905 and located permanently in Trosky. For two years thereafter he was a cream buyer; then he commenced his present duties with the Coffey Elevator company.

Mr. Foote owns his residence and a block of ground in Trosky and retains possession of his Aitkin county farm. While a resident of Elmer township he served as a school

director, and he served in a similar capacity in Aitkin county. While there he was also township treasurer. Our subject is a member of the Methodist church and of the I. O. O. F. and Good Samaritan lodges.

In Edgerton, on December 10, 1894, was solemnized the marriage of Howard W. Foote to Mrs. Irena Rogers. Mrs. Foote is a native of New York. By her first husband she has the following named children: John, Rupert and Etta Rogers.

AMOS AUST (1879), of Pipestone, is the eldest son in a family of five daughters and two sons who were born to William and Berth (Kurth) Aust, pioneers and home steads of Gray township. The names of the children in the Aust family besides our subject are Clara, Katie, Henry, Josephine, Tina and Louise.

William Aust, the father, first beheld the things of earth in the land of the kaiser across the seas. When a youth of sixteen he took passage for America, and for a number of years he was employed at farm labor in the vicinity of Fountain City, Wisconsin. From that locality he moved to Rochester, Minnesota, where he became the owner of a small farm, and it was there also that he was married to Betha Kurth, a native of Wisconsin.

The charms of Pipestone county had, during the late seventies, been heralded through the eastern part of the state, and in consequence had attracted the attention of many a prospective settler. Among those was William Aust, one of a small company who in the spring of 1878 acted upon a resolve to inspect the new land for themselves. The visit proved sufficient to impress Mr. Aust with the desirability of the region, and before returning to his home in Rochester he pre-empted a quarter section of land in the vicinity of the future town of Holland.

In 1879 Mr. Aust, accompanied by his family, undertook the journey overland via the ox-team route and prepared to make a permanent settlement in the sparsely settled and undeveloped Pipestone county of that day. There was a surprise in store for the pioneer on arrival at his destination. His claim had been "jumped" during his absence and it proved impossible to assert his right to the land. However, there was plen-

ty of prairie land waiting to be taken, and, taking advantage of the homestead laws, Mr. Aust filed claim to the northeast quarter of section 12, Gray township, which was destined to be his home for many years. The covered wagon which had brought the family in the journey across the sea of prairie was converted into an abode until a sod covered shanty could be constructed on the claim. It was necessary to haul the lumber needed from Tracy, a distance of fifty miles. Eventually the barren plain was transformed into a blooming garden through the never ceasing efforts of industrious hands.

In 1889 Mr. Aust moved from the old farm and for eighteen months was a resident of Pipestone. He then became the owner of an eighty acre tract on section 14, Gray, for which he paid \$500. It was a paying investment. The ground was broken and planted to flax, and the first year a crop, valued at \$1200, was realized. At the end of three years William Aust retired from farming and moved to Kasota, Lesueur county, where he conducted a hotel for six years. He then returned to Pipestone county and the Gray township homestead, lived thereon a year, and then became a hardware and machinery merchant in Pipestone. This business he finally traded for a half section of land near Manchester, Kingsbury county, South Dakota, where he had previously acquired 900 acres. This land, which he purchased at bargain prices, was in after years disposed of for a handsome sum. Mr. Aust farmed his half section in Kingsbury county for a number of years. In 1903 he returned for a visit to his old home in Germany. He returned to the United States in the spring following and shortly afterwards again journeyed to the land of his birth, where he remained and where he proposes to spend his declining years. Amos Aust of this review is a native of Fountain City, Wisconsin, where he was born May 27, 1878. When an infant in his first year he accompanied his parents to Pipestone county and settled with them on the Gray township homestead. He attended school in that precinct at a time when the task of directing the youthful mind was carried on in the farm homes of the neighborhood. Amos was later sent to the Pipestone public school. He was fourteen years of age when

the Aust family moved to Kasota. He left that place to return to Pipestone county and moved to the homestead in Gray, which he conducted three years.

Mr. Aust was for a time engaged in the grain buying business. He managed the elevator at Gray's Siding for three years and was located for a year at Wilmont, Nobles county, where he was employed in a similar capacity. His father had moved to Kingsbury county, South Dakota, and there Amos went to live for a time. He invested in a half section of land, which he farmed for a year, and then once more established a home in Gray township on the farm which he had in the meantime bought from his father, and which our subject still owns. He continued to farm until the death of his wife early in 1909. During the fall of that year he bought grain at Colman, South Dakota, then settled in the city of Pipestone, where he is now engaged in the real estate business. He devotes especial attention to the sale of Texas lands. Mr. Aust has invested heavily in real estate in the Panhandle region of that state.

At Pipestone, on October 7, 1902, Amos Aust was joined in marriage to Hattie Riffel, the daughter of W. H. Riffel, of Pipestone. She was born near Burlington, Iowa, on August 22, 1881, and died January 3, 1909. The following four children were born to this union: Lola, born July 16, 1903; Harold, born August 24, 1904; Ethel, born October 20, 1905; and Gladys, born September 27, 1907. During his residence in Gray Mr. Aust for several terms officiated as justice of peace.

HARRY MINET (1878), Grange township farmer, has passed all except the first eight years of his life as a resident of Pipestone county. A native of Wisconsin, he was born in Juneau county, April 18, 1870. His father, Nelson Minet, was born in Vermont, and his mother, Margretta (Knudtson) Minet, is a native of Norway.

Harry was eight years of age when the Minet family departed from the Badger state and joined the vanguard of Pipestone county pioneers. The elder Mr. Minet filed a homestead claim to the southeast quarter of section 24, Grange, the farm on which our subject was reared. His education was

obtained in the district schools of his home precinct. At the age of eighteen our subject came into possession of an eighty acre farm on section 24, which he conducted until 1904. That year Mr. Minet moved to the village of Holland, where he bought property, which he still retains, and operated a livery and dray line for five years. Since then he has rented and farmed the old homestead of his father in Grange.

In the village of Holland Harry Minet was joined in wedlock to Nellie Symens, who was born in Illinois, the daughter of Peter and Minnie Symens. To this union have been born three children, as follows: Minnie, Nelson and Georgietta. Mr. Minet holds membership in the lodge of Modern Woodmen of America.

PERLEY H. SMITH (1878) has lived on the farm he now owns and conducts, the southwest quarter of section 28, Sweet township, since he was eleven years of age. The land was homesteaded in the spring of 1878 by his father, Ichabod Smith, who resided on the farm until called by death, January 1, 1908, at the age of seventy-three years. Ichabod Smith was a native of North Anson, Maine. He married Margaret A. Waddell, who was born in Portsmouth, Ohio. They were early settlers of Wisconsin, and later they were numbered among the pioneers of Pipestone county. Mrs. Smith died June 27, 1905. Perley H. has one brother, Daniel E., and a sister, Mary E. Telford.

Juneau county, Wisconsin, is the birthplace, and July 28, 1867, the date of the birth of Perley H. Smith. With his parents he moved to Pipestone county in 1878 and located on the Sweet township homestead. He attended the old school, which was located on the homestead, and for two years was a student in the public school of Luverne. In 1904 Mr. Smith went to Hinckley, Minnesota, and near that place farmed for three years; then he returned to take possession of his present finely improved farm. Mr. Smith is one of the township supervisors and is clerk of school district No. 35. He is a member of the Odd Fellows and Modern Woodmen lodges.

At Beaver Creek, Rock county, on Octo-

ber 9, 1889, our subject was married to Flora L. Hulett, a native of New York state. To these parents was born a son, Earl, on December 7, 1896.

FRED W. GILES (1880), of Holland, is the son of one of Pipestone county's settlers, the postmaster of Holland, Edwin Giles, who has served Uncle Sam in that capacity for the past eleven years. The mother of our subject is Anna E. (Pannock) Giles, who is also still living.

The birth of Fred W. Giles occurred in Oneida county, New York, on November 12, 1857. Three years later he moved west with his parents and located with them at Logansville, Wisconsin, and on a farm near that place he grew to manhood. The eldest son in a family of ten children, he was early forced to contribute towards his own support. Fred became a resident of Pipestone county in 1880. For five years he was employed successively at farm labor in Sweet and Troy townships and in the Pipestone quarries. He then was engaged in railroad work for several years, following which he set up in the well digging business, a line of work he followed for twelve years—in every corner of the county. He was later in the dray and transfer business at Lake Benton, Lincoln county, where he resided until August, 1906. Then he settled in Holland and bought the general merchandise business of his father, which he still conducts.

At Flandreau, South Dakota, on September 27, 1884, Fred W. Giles was married to Mary F. Stanley, a native of Chippewa county, Wisconsin. She was born June 24, 1869, and when four years of age accompanied her parents, Havilla G. and Lucy A. (Frisbie) Stanley, to Murray county, Minnesota, where they homesteaded. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Giles: a son, Charles James, born April 11, 1888; and a daughter, Mattie L., born in October, 1886. Mattie is married to Rudolph Jolitz, of Lake Benton, and she is the mother of a daughter, Beryl Lillian.

Our subject was a member of the Holland village council four years. He is a member of the Odd Fellows and Modern Woodmen lodges.

SAMUEL J. CARSON (1885), who owns and farms the south half of section 33, Troy township, on which he has made most of the improvements, is a native of Vermont. He was born in Vergennes, Addison county, on the seventh of September, 1855. Both his parents, James and Margaret (Preston) Carson, were natives of Ireland. The father died when Samuel was twenty-one years of age and his mother passed away in 1897.

Five years after the birth of our subject the Carson family moved to Canada. They remained there only a short time, returning to the old Vermont home, where Samuel passed his youth. On attaining his majority he left his native state and went to Massachusetts. He was employed for a time in the quarries at Springfield and later followed agricultural pursuits in that state. Mr. Carson moved to Pipestone county in 1885. He bought a quarter section farm on section 32, Sweet, which he conducted fifteen years. On selling that place, he bought his present land in Troy and has since resided there. Mr. Carson is an ex-chairman of the board of supervisors in both Sweet and Troy townships and is now the treasurer of school district No. 57, an office which he also held in his former residence.

In Naperville county, Quebec, Canada, on January 2, 1882, the subject of this review was joined in wedlock to Mary Ann Stuart, a native of that province. Her birth occurred January 2, 1861. Four sons and two daughters have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Carson. Their names are Annie (Mrs. Orville Haines), of Troy; William, of Troy; Nina (Mrs. Edward Anderson), of Troy; James, Foster and Stuart, the last three residing at home.

CEYLON E. TAYLOR (1881) is one of the earliest of Grange township settlers. He still resides on and operates his original homestead, the southwest quarter of section 14, to which he filed claim in 1881. He has been unusually successful as a breeder of high grade stock. Mr. Taylor is an ex-member of both the board of supervisors of the town of Grange and the board of directors of his school district.

Samuel and Sarah J. (Dake) Taylor, the parents of our subject, moved from their

native state of Vermont to Wisconsin at a very early date. They settled in Oakdale, Monroe county, where on April 8, 1859, occurred the nativity of Ceylon E. Taylor of this review. He acquired a common school education and at the age of sixteen assumed control of his own course in life. He was employed for a number of years in the pineries of northern Wisconsin, and from that state came to Pipestone county thirty years ago. By fraternal affiliation Mr. Taylor is a Modern Woodman.

Mr. Taylor is a man of family. He was married in Pipestone October 4, 1888, to Louisa Arrowsmith, a native of England. She was born June 17, 1869, the daughter of Aaron and Elizabeth Arrowsmith. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor are parents of the following named children: Belle, born July 19, 1889; George, born July 30, 1892; Ceylon, born November 28, 1894; Melvin, born August 21, 1897; Henry, born July 11, 1900; May, born October 26, 1902; and Clarence E., born May 25, 1905.

DANIEL E. SWEET (1874), deceased. The first man to locate permanently in Pipestone county and for some time the only settler within the confines of the county was Daniel E. Sweet, who played a most important part in the affairs of his county and city.

Mr. Sweet was born in Pennsylvania April 10, 1838. He moved to Wisconsin with his parents when a child and in 1860 went to Iowa. He was married to Amarancy Hatch, who died in 1870. Upon the outbreak of the civil war Mr. Sweet enlisted in the Eleventh Iowa infantry and served until the close of hostilities. During his service he was promoted to color sergeant. After the war Mr. Sweet located in Cedar county, Iowa, where he resided until the spring of 1872, when he located in Lyon county, Iowa. There he married his second wife, who is still living.

As has been told in the historical part of this volume, Mr. Sweet and his wife and child took up their residence at the Pipestone quarries in 1874 and there took a land claim upon which a part of the city of Pipestone now stands. He was very active in promoting the settlement of the county in the early days, and after that was



DANIEL E. SWEET AND FAMILY

Who Were the First Settlers in Pipestone County. The Little Girl Was the Second White Child Born in the County.

brought about he did much to boom his county and town. In company with C. H. Bennett, he platted Pipestone City, was the first postmaster, and served as county surveyor and probate judge after the county organization was brought about. He donated the school house site and the court house site.

Several days before his death Mr. Sweet moved to Jennings, Louisiana, where he had charge of a steamboat line and where he later engaged in other business enterprises. He died at Siloam Springs, Arkansas, October 2, 1902, after only a few weeks' residence in that place.

CHARLES H. KINGSBURY (1878), a farmer of Osborne township, is an early settler of Pipestone county and one of the very first residents of Osborne township, where he has resided thirty-three years. He is a progressive farmer and a man held in high esteem by his neighbors. Mr. Kingsbury has a fine family of grown-up sons and daughters.

FRANK E. DOUTY (1891) has for two years past been the highly esteemed president of the village council of Edgerton and is a banker of that thriving municipality. He is a native of Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, where he was born April 21, 1871. Both his parents, C. E. and Almeda H. (Adams) Douty, were natives of Maine. When a young man, the father, C. E. Douty, moved west and invested in land near Marshall, Minnesota. He settled there just at the time of the dread grasshopper scourge, and after a few seasons replete with bitter experiences he sought a more favorable location and selected the country near New Hampton, Iowa, where he bought land and lived until 1896. That year he came back to Minnesota and farmed in Battle Plain township, Rock county, until his death, which occurred September 21, 1909, at the age of fifty-eight years. His wife died July 17, 1910. Two children besides our subject were born to these parents. They are Stanley D., of the home farm, and Cora (Mrs. Emery Lorenz), of Osborne township.

Frank E. Douty of this biography was three years of age when he left Wisconsin

and located with his parents on a farm near New Hampton, Iowa. There he passed his youth and received an education. At the age of twenty he moved to Rock county and farmed land owned by his father in Battle Plain township until 1896, when his residence in Edgerton began. That year he was chosen assistant cashier of the Bank of Edgerton, and five years later he was promoted to the cashiership, his present position. He served on the village council several years before becoming president of that body. He is a Mason and a Knight of Pythias.

On July 26, 1899, Mr. Douty was joined in marriage to Elizabeth Langmack, a native of Iowa, who was born October 27, 1880.

The State Bank of Edgerton is the successor to the old Bank of Edgerton, which was established in 1891 as a private institution with the following officers: President, H. J. Thode; vice president, B. Ross; cashier, C. G. Brady. In 1896 F. E. Douty was elected assistant cashier.

These same officers continued to serve until 1901, when a change resulted as follows: President, C. S. Howard; vice president, Ed. Yocom; cashier, F. E. Douty, which is the staff as it is today. On March 10, 1908, the original private financial house was reorganized into the State Bank of Edgerton, capitalized at \$25,000. The institution does a general banking, real estate, loans, collection and insurance business. It is the oldest bank in Edgerton and has enjoyed a prosperous career.

The bank has had the following assistant cashiers since its organization: C. B. Mathier, W. C. Lee, S. A. Christianson, Elizabeth Douty, Myrtle Jones, Mabel Rud, F. N. Saun.

FRANK HILLARD (1892) is one of the prominent agriculturists of Altona township—a man who has reaped prosperity from Pipestone county's productive soil. His 360 acre farm, which comprises the northeast quarter of section 33 and the southwest quarter of section 28, is substantially and thoroughly improved. During the summer of 1910 Mr. Hillard erected an elegant farm residence, unexcelled in the precinct. He

is an extensive breeder of the highest grades of stock.

Alsace-Lorraine was French territory at the time the birth of our subject occurred there October 10, 1868. Two years later, as a result of warfare between the French and German nations, the territory became a German province. Both parents, Frank Hillard, Sr., a farmer by occupation, and Susanna (Benarde) Hillard, lived and died in the land of the kaiser. The father died on New Year's day, 1901, while the mother died in 1890.

Frank Hillard of this biography passed the first twenty-two years of his life in the land of his birth. He attended the German common schools and until immigrating to America he was employed on the fruit and truck farm of his father. On February 24, 1890, Frank landed at New York, and from that port he journeyed to Dubuque, Iowa, arriving there with very limited capital. For two years he was employed at farm labor in the vicinity of Dubuque; then commenced the successful career he has since pursued in Pipestone county and Altona township. He worked out for two years, then rented the land he now farms, of which he became the owner after four years' occupancy. Mr. Hillard has been for several years a director of school district No. 31.

In Grange township, on August 12, 1896, Frank Hillard was wedded to Catherine Ackerman, the daughter of L. V. and Mary Ackerman, of Grange. Mrs. Hillard was born at Faribault, Minnesota, December 14, 1874. They are the parents of one living child, John, born April 26, 1899. Two sons, Peter and Henry, are deceased. Peter was born February 18, 1899. Henry, born May 24, 1898, died at the age of nine months.

ORVILLE P. NASON (1880). In the city of Pipestone there is not a citizen more highly esteemed, or a man more closely identified with every worthy movement that has meant for a bigger and better Pipestone—and that from the earliest days,—or one that has contributed more of his means and energy to the promotion of the public welfare than the gentleman whose name heads this review. A busier man there never was, but it seems to be an almost universal rule that it is just such individuals that always

are ready and willing to give of their spare time and talent to aid others and the common good.

At Osceola, Polk county, Wisconsin, on April 28, 1864, occurred the birth of this man of achievement, Orville P. Nason. He was sixteen years of age when, with his parents, he moved to Minnesota and Pipestone county, destined to be the field of his subsequent activities. The father, Crocker Nason, and his family lived on a farm in Gray township for two years, but in 1882 became permanent residents of Pipestone City.

On the first day of April, 1885, at the age of twenty-one, Orville P. Nason commenced his business career in Pipestone. From the small beginnings of that date has developed a business organization of unusual magnitude, another monumental success to be attributed to a self-made man, who has accomplished great things through perseverance, attention to minute details, and a fortitude acquired only in the school of "hard knocks." On the date mentioned Mr. Nason established a dray line of limited proportions. A year later he assumed the management of the interests of the Standard Oil company, in Pipestone, and today is the oldest agent, in point of continuous service, of that corporation in the Mankato district, which comprises the whole of southwestern Minnesota. Mr. Nason's business interests commenced to expand about twenty years ago, when he became a dealer in wood and coal. Following that movement, he bought an elevator and now is also a grain merchant. Several years ago he became the operator of the Pipestone Granite quarry. In the conduct of these manifold interests of Mr. Nason's twenty men find employment.

To E. W. Davies, the pioneer banker of Pipestone, more than to any other man, Mr. Nason attributes his success. At the commencement of his business career a quarter of a century ago, Mr. Davies freely gave financial and moral support and offered valuable instruction in the most approved methods of bookkeeping suitable to his business. That first set of books Mr. Nason still retains and prizes. He is now one of the stockholders of the Pipestone County Bank, of which Mr. Davies is the president.

The parents of our subject, Crocker and Evaline (Fenlason) Nason, are natives of Maine. They were married in Wisconsin in 1860 and resided in Osceola county, of that state, until establishing their present residence in Pipestone county thirty-one years ago. For two years the family resided in Gray township, but have lived in Pipestone since 1882. Crocker Nason is still hale and hearty and for the past twenty years has piloted the train bus of his transfer line. Besides Orville P., of this sketch, there are three other sons in the Nason family, namely: Ralph W., of Pipestone; Ross A., of Antlers, Colorado; and Mrs. Crocker Nason celebrated their schools at Vigan, Philippine Islands. Mr. and Mrs. Crocker Nason celebrated their golden wedding November 4, 1910, the event having been planned as a surprise by the Grand Army and Relief Corps of Pipestone.

On September 18, 1886, in Pipestone, occurred the marriage of Orville P. Nason to Isabella B. Wilson, who was born in Will county, Illinois. Mrs. Nason is a sister of Andrew Wilson, of the firm of Wilson & Evans Bros., and a daughter of Andrew and Isabella Wilson, of Scotch birth, and residents of Pipestone county since 1885. One son, Forrest P., was born to these parents on July 13, 1900.

Among the organizations and enterprises in which Mr. Nason has been a guiding spirit must be mentioned the Pipestone Commercial club, of which he is a charter member, and its first and only president, an office he acceptably fills at the present writing. He is affiliated with the I. O. O. F. lodge and the Sons of Veterans. His father, Crocker Nason, served with distinction throughout the whole civil war as a member of company A, Forty-fourth Wisconsin regiment.

HARRY M. GRIFFIN (1884), who owns and farms a half section of land in Murray county, just over the line from Osborne township, lived in Pipestone county from the time he was a boy twelve years of age until the spring of 1911. He is the son of J. A. Griffin, of Trosky, a native of New Hampshire. The Griffins are of English descent, the father of J. A. Griffin

having been the first of the family to settle in America. His mother came of old Pilgrim stock. The mother of our subject was Isabelle (Gray) Griffin, who was born in Scotland and died July 5, 1908.

Harry M. Griffin's birth occurred in Delaware county, Iowa, May 4, 1872. Twelve years later he moved with his parents to Pipestone county, the family locating on a farm where the village of Trosky now stands. He was educated in the district schools and later attended the Trosky school. Mr. Griffin was married in 1895 and the same year commenced farming for himself on section 17, Osborne township. Three years later he moved to section 30 and in 1904 located on section 24, where he resided until March 6, 1911. At that time he moved to his own farm, the south half of section 18, township 105, range 43, Murray county, which he bought from William Lockwood October 10, 1910. Mr. Griffin is a large stock raiser. He is the clerk of school district No. 44 and has served in that capacity since 1905. He is affiliated with the I. O. O. F. lodge of Trosky and the M. W. A. lodge of Edgerton.

On January 12, 1888, Harry and two of his brothers met with an unpleasant experience in the never-to-be-forgotten blizzard of that year. The boys were caught in the storm while homeward bound from Trosky. The snow was so heavy and blinding that it was impossible for them to discern one another and it was only by tightly holding to each other's coats that they were able to keep from being separated and lost. They walked eighty rods through the storm before finally reaching home and shelter.

Mr. Griffin was married in Osborne township on September 25, 1895, to Hattie Butts, the daughter of R. J. and Catherine J. Butts, now of Bellingham, Washington. She was born in Rushford, Fillmore county, Minnesota, February 1, 1871, and moved eight years later with her parents to Pipestone county. The following six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Griffin: James A., born August 4, 1896; Richard H., born February 21, 1898; Thelma I., born August 31, 1899; Catherine I., born August 12, 1901; and Hattie M. and Harry M. (twins), born January 3, 1905.

CHARLES LINDSAY (1883), president of the village council of Woodstock, is a pioneer merchant of that town, having been established there in the general merchandise business since 1883. He is one of a family of five children whose parents were George and Katherine Lindsay, both deceased. A native of Scotland, our subject was born in Forfar shire October 13, 1859.

Charles received a careful education in his native land and came to the United States in 1883, at the age of twenty-four years. He was influenced to come to America through the inducements offered by a company of Scotch capitalists, formed for the purpose of establishing a Scotch colony in the counties of Pipestone and Murray. This enterprise was launched in the early eighties, large tracts of land were purchased or options secured on them, and the country opened for colonization. The company interested intelligent and successful young Scotch farmers in the venture, and among those was Charles Lindsay of this review, who is one of the remaining few of the original band of colonists now residing in this section.

For some reason or other the colonization project was a failure, and the members of the colony were thrown on their own resources shortly after making settlement in this country. Mr. Lindsay turned his attention to mercantile pursuits, and the year he became an American resident he established his present flourishing general mercantile business in Woodstock. He succeeded to the business of the Althorpe company, which has been materially increased in the twenty-eight years that have elapsed since 1883. Mr. Lindsay carries a full line of dry goods, groceries, shoes, hats, caps, etc. He owns his store building and residence property in the village.

In Pipestone, in June, 1895, our subject was joined in wedlock to Mary Fleming, a native of the adjoining county of Murray. One daughter, Marian, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Lindsay, on May 17, 1898.

On repeated occasions Mr. Lindsay has been called upon to fill offices of trust in his home community. He is now and has been for many years the treasurer of the board of education and has also enjoyed

a long service on the village council, of which he is the present head. Fraternally he is a Mason, belonging to the Blue Lodge No. 148 and Triune Chapter No. 51, of Pipestone; a Woodman and a Workman.

JOHN W. WEHRMAN (1888), a well known Eden township farmer and stock raiser, was born in Iowa county, Iowa, October 2, 1862, the son of Henry and Sarah (Elder) Wehrman. The father was a German by birth, and the mother was a native of Pennsylvania.

John was educated in the country schools of his native county and until 1886 assisted his father on the home farm. In the year mentioned he rented land and commenced farming on his own account, and two years later he settled in Pipestone county. At that time he bought 240 acres on section 29, Eden, and later became the owner of another 260 acre tract on the same section. He has now 600 acres of well improved land, on which are substantial buildings. Mr. Wehrman breeds Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs. He is president of the Farmers Elevator company of Jasper. Our subject was for fifteen years a member of the township board, and he is now the treasurer of school district No. 26. With his family he belongs to the German Lutheran church.

Mr. Wehrman was married in 1890, in Benton county, Iowa, to Annie Schield, who was born in that county March 24, 1868. She is the daughter of John and Dorthia (Budy) Schield, both of whom came originally from Germany. To Mr. and Mrs. Wehrman have been born eight children, as follows: Irene, born May 16, 1891; Iona, born September 11, 1892; Ruth, born September 18, 1894; Aurelia, born July 18, 1897; Esther, born June 18, 1899; Henry, born July 18, 1901; Dorthia, born January 19, 1907; and Robert, born December 19, 1909.

ROBERT I. WHITEHEAD (1884) is one of the prosperous young farmers of Grange township, one whose entire life has been passed within the borders of Pipestone county. His father, William W. Whitehead, is one of the very earliest of Pipe-

stone county's pioneers. He came first in 1875, as a boy of fifteen years, with his father, Joseph Whitehead (the grandfather of our subject), who filed on a timber claim in Sweet township, spent the following winter in Lyon county, Iowa, then returned to make permanent settlement. The Whiteheads helped haul the lumber with which the home of Daniel Sweet, the first erected in the county, was built. William W. Whitehead, who was born in Linn county, Iowa, August 17, 1860, married Jennie Wait, a native of Madison, Wisconsin, and to them four children were born: Robert I., of this sketch; Roy David, Ralph and Minnie Matilda. The parents still maintain a residence on section 2, Sweet.

Robert Whitehead was born on the Sweet township farm February 18, 1884. He resided on the home place until twenty-two years of age. At that time, in company with his father, he bought the north half of section 5, Grange township, which he has improved from barren land to a model farm. He is a large feeder of high grade stock. Mr. Whitehead's crop for 1910 was as follows: Oats, seventy-five bushels per acre from seventy-one acres; wheat, twenty-one bushels to the acre; barley, thirty bushels to the acre; and a bumper crop of corn, thirty-five to forty bushels per acre, from a field of 140 acres.

On the same section where occurred his birth, on January 23, 1906, our subject was united in marriage to Sabina Danneker, the daughter of John and Julia Danneker. Mrs. Whitehead was born on the northeast quarter of section 28, Grange, on November 19, 1883. A daughter, Tressa, was born to these parents December 12, 1908, and a son, Earnest, on January 6, 1911.

WILLIAM A. SWEET (1879), who owns and farms the southwest quarter of section 2, Troy township, is the son of one of the first homesteaders of that township, William W. Sweet, who died in 1909. His wife, Nancy J. (McLain) Sweet, the mother of our subject, is still living on the old farm. Mr. and Mrs. Sweet brought up a family of nine children, four sons and five daughters.

William A. Sweet was nine years of age when he accompanied his parents to the new Pipestone county from Cedar county, Iowa, where he was born November 13, 1870. He was educated in the district schools and resided on the home farm, the southeast quarter of section 2, Troy township, until he was twenty-five years of age. He then rented land and commenced farming on his own account. He bought and has lived on his present farm since 1907. Mr. Sweet owns stock in the farmers' elevator at Cazenovia. He is treasurer of school district No. 9. In a fraternal way he is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen, Royal Neighbors and Sons of Veterans orders.

The subject of this biography was married in Troy township August 7, 1895, to Euba Vogt, who was born in Illinois December 14, 1876, the daughter of John and Mary (Young) Vogt. To this union have been born the following named children: Winnie, born March 21, 1897; Violet, born April 28, 1901; Byrdella, born December 12, 1906; and Evelyn, born April 12, 1908. Mr. and Mrs. Sweet are members of the Baptist church.

QUINCY E. KIESTER (1893). On the first of February, 1863, Quincy E. Kiester first beheld the things of earth, in Stephenson county, Illinois. He was one of a family of three sons and two daughters, those besides our subject being William, John, Della and Jennie (deceased). Their parents were Uriah and Mary (Rocky) Kiester, Pennsylvanians by birth. The former died May 6, 1910, at the age of eighty-three years, while his wife died in August, 1898, and was sixty-three years of age at the time.

Mr. Kiester grew to manhood on his father's Illinois farm. After completing a common school education, he was a student at Carthage college, at Carthage, Illinois; then he began the profession of teaching. He taught school in Green county, Wisconsin, for two years, in Illinois for eight successive years, and in 1893 came to Minnesota and taught for six years in the schools of Trosky and Woodstock. He then took up carpentering and was engaged in building elevators for the Davenport Elevator company. In 1907 he

assumed the management of the company's business at Trosky. During a season of every year he goes over the line and repairs the elevators of the company. He holds membership in the I. O. O. F. and M. W. A. lodges.

On repeated occasions Mr. Kiester has yielded to the wish of the voters and filled positions of trust in his community. He was the first clerk and recorder of the village of Trosky and has served on the council every year with the exception of two since his residence in Trosky began. He is now president of the council and has served in that capacity the past four years. He is a leading citizen of the town and the local manager of the Davenport Elevator company. He is also a member of the board of education. In 1900 and in 1910 Mr. Kiester was entrusted with the taking of the federal census in his precinct.

Our subject was married in Orangeville, Illinois, October 21, 1891, to Jennie W. Stair, who was born in the Prairie state December 10, 1871. Mr. and Mrs. Kiester have four children: Neli N., Ardath L., Vida M. and George V.

JAIRUS HITCHCOX (1885), who has faithfully guarded the treasury of Pipestone county since January, 1899, is a native of Pompeia township, Onondaga county, New York, and is the son of Asahel and Malinda (Davis) Hitchcox, both of whom were also natives of the Empire state. There are four sons in the family who, besides our subject, are Amos B., of Belvidere, Illinois; Harry H., of Pipestone; and Frank E., of St. Paul. The father, Ashael Hitchcox, served through the civil war in the One Hundred and Forty-Ninth New York infantry. In 1867 with his family he moved west and located in Kane county, Illinois. Coming to Pipestone county in 1882, he bought land and lived there until moving to Kettle Falls, Washington, in 1908. In that Washington town the venerable old man is still living and is now in his eighty-fourth year. His faithful wife died in Pipestone county on January 8, 1899.

The date of the birth of the subject of this biography is April 3, 1856.

Jairus was eleven years of age when the family moved to Kane county, Illinois, and in that county and later in the adjoining one of McHenry, he was educated and passed his youth and early manhood. He was engaged in farming and stock buying up to the time of settling in Pipestone county in the spring of 1885, and there he continued in the same occupation until called upon to assume the duties of county treasurer. He lived until 1889 on the northeast quarter of section 32, Troy township, and on selling that land he bought 105 acres on section 7, Gray township, land within the corporate limits of Pipestone, which he still owns. Mr. Hitchcox is also the owner of 228 acres of choice land in Swift county. He has lived in the city since holding his present office.

Mr. Hitchcox has at all times been actively interested in the affairs of local and county interest. For all but two years of his residence in Troy he served as chairman of the township board of supervisors. He was also the clerk of school district No. 57. On the removal of O. T. Gilson from the township he was chosen to fill that gentleman's unexpired term as a member of the board of county commissioners from the second district. Fraternally Mr. Hitchcox is affiliated with the Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen, Workmen and Sons of Veterans orders.

The marriage of our subject to Ruth Wilson occurred in Huntley, Illinois, on January 7, 1880. She is a native of McHenry county, Illinois. The following three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hitchcox: Myrtle (Mrs. Harry A. Gano), of Pipestone; Vera L. and Aura May.

H. C. GLOVER (1886), a resident of Pipestone county for a quarter century, owns and farms the northeast quarter and the east half of the northwest quarter of section 27, Rock township, upon which he has lived since 1901. For most of the improvements on his farm Mr. Glover is directly responsible. He raises considerable stock, especially throughbred Shropshire sheep, and engages extensively in dairying.

The birthplace of our subject is Wayne county, New York, where on May 20, 1867,

he first beheld the things of this earth. He was five years of age when death called his father, Conklin Glover, a farmer and a native of Long Island, New York. His mother, Sarah (Perkins) Glover, who died in June, 1901, was born in Wayne county.

Mr. Glover was reared on a farm and educated in the district schools of Wayne county, which continued to be his home until 1886. On March 17 of that year he arrived in Pipestone county. He attended the Pipestone high school for a time, and for four years was employed on the farm of C. E. Cunningham in Sweet township. For two years he was absent from the state, farming the while near Woodlake, Nebraska. He returned to Pipestone county and until his marriage was employed on the Cunningham farm. For one summer he resided in the city of Pipestone and did carpenter work, then rented land in Troy, which he farmed seven years, moving from there to his own farm in Rock township. Mr. Glover holds membership in the Woodstock Presbyterian church.

At Pipestone, on April 12, 1893, the subject of this sketch was joined in marriage to Annie Masek, who was born at Marshalltown, Iowa, October 9, 1874. Mr. and Mrs. Glover are the parents of the following ten children: Laura Belle, born March 5, 1894; Grace Jennie, born October 28, 1895; Harold Emery, born August 9, 1897; Walter Wallace, born August 27, 1899; Nellie Rose, born July 26, 1901; Edward Arthur and Herbert Homan (twins), born May 26, 1903; Ralph Cecil, born July 30, 1905; Donald Rollo, born August 5, 1908; and Francis Laverne, born August 21, 1910.

CHARLES H. MAYNARD (1892), a progressive farmer of Elmer township, is the son of two pioneer settlers of Butler county, Iowa, Curtis G. and Caroline (Hooper) Maynard, both natives of Ohio and of English and Scotch descent. Our subject was born March 15, 1867. He was four years of age when the family moved from Butler to Marshall county. Ten years later the Maynards moved to Sac county, in the same state, and there Charles finished his schooling and grew to manhood. In 1892, at the age of twenty-five years, he commenced his

career in Pipestone county. At that time he bought the farm, the northeast quarter of section 35, Elmer, upon which he has since resided. Mr. Maynard is a large stock raiser, and he makes a specialty of Shorthorn cattle and Poland China and Duroc-Jersey hogs. He has been clerk of Elmer township for ten years. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen orders.

In Schaller, Iowa, on March 12, 1892, occurred the marriage of Charles H. Maynard to Luella West, who was born May 18, 1874, the daughter of Edward and Elmira (Gere) West. To this union have been born two children: Edward L., born May 12, 1894; and Curtis D., born January 25, 1906.

FRIEND C. BRAKE (1893) is one of the prominent business men of Edgerton. He was one in a family of five children, four of whom are now living, whose parents were Charles and Harriet (Laravee) Brake, natives of Canada and New York, respectively, and both of French descent. The father died in August, 1907, at the age of seventy-eight years, but Harriet (Laravee) Brake is yet a resident of Edgerton. The living children in the Brake family besides our subject are Arthur, of Hancock, Minnesota; Eugene, of Minneapolis; and Mary Atwood, of Fulda, Minnesota.

Friend C. Brake was born in Leroy, Dodge county, Wisconsin, August 9, 1857. At the age of seven years he moved with his parents to Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, where he was educated. In 1868 another removal was made, to Delavan, Faribault county, Minnesota. Friend assisted with the management of the home farm until after his twenty-sixth birthday, then engaged in railroad work. He was employed in the train dispatcher's office at Fulda for four years and in 1893 located in Edgerton as the station agent and operator at the Milwaukee station. Two years later he commenced in a modest manner his present general mercantile business. He carries a full line of dry goods, groceries, boots, shoes, etc., and owns his store building and one of the finest residences in Edgerton.

Mr. Brake was married in Delevan, Min-

nesota, to Sylvia Edwards, whose birth occurred at Lake Mills, Wisconsin, April 23, 1867. To these parents one daughter, Grace (Mrs. W. A. Clelland), of Edgerton, was born April 27, 1882. Our subject is a member of the K. P. and I. O. O. F. lodges and is the grand representative of the local lodge of the first named order.

GUS EGGERS (1891) has for twenty years been a resident of Pipestone county and for that entire period has been a Sweet township farmer. He is a native German and was born November 4, 1860, the son of John and Maggie (Thistlekamp) Eggers. John Eggers was a blacksmith by trade.

Gus was educated in the common schools of his native land, and at the age of nineteen years immigrated with his sister Elizabeth to the United States. His first employment was on a farm near Davenport, Iowa, where he remained until his marriage in 1886. Mr. Eggers then rented land in Tama county, Iowa, which he farmed until coming to Pipestone county five years later. He bought the southwest quarter of section 34, Sweet, upon which he lived twelve years. On disposing of that land, he bought his present farm, the northeast quarter of section 32 and the north half of section 33, upon which he has made many substantial improvements and only recently erected a fine residence. Much attention is given to the raising of high grade stock, especially sheep, on the Eggers farm.

Our subject is a member of the township board and owns stock in the Farmers Elevator company of Ihlen and the Independent Harvester company of Plano, Illinois. Mr. Eggers was married in Tama county, Iowa, March 16, 1886, to Mathilda Hanson, who was born in Iowa June 30, 1867, the daughter of Carsten and Mary (Greve) Hanson. To these parents the following named seven children have been born: Mary, John, Henry, Edward, Hannah, Minna and Leona.

MATT KELLEY (1878), Aetna township farmer, is a native son of the North Star state. He was born in Wabasha county January 24, 1875, the son of Pat and Mary

(O'Conner) Kelley, now residents of Fairmont. Pat Kelley, a native of the Emerald isle, in 1878 homesteaded land in Murray county, adjoining Pipestone county. In those two counties he made his home until the spring of 1909, when he located in Fairmont.

Matt was in his third year when the Kelleys moved from eastern Minnesota to the Murray county homestead. He was educated in the district schools and grew to manhood on the old farm. He assumed control of his own course in life on attaining his majority. He worked as a farm laborer for a number of years, then became an independent tiller of the soil in Murray county. Two years later, in 1906, he became an Aetna township farmer. He resides on the southwest quarter of section 34, and also farms a quarter of section 3, Rock.

At Mazeppa, Wabasha county, on February 11, 1903, Matt Kelley was joined in marriage to Catherine Hoch, and to this union one daughter, Leona, was born, March 18, 1910. Mrs. Kelley was born in Wabasha county May 4, 1885, the daughter of Severn Hoch and Lottie (Zell) Hoch, residents of Melville, Wabasha county. The former parent is a native of Germany, while the mother was born in Pepin, Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Kelley are members of the Catholic church of Woodstock.

WILLIAM H. LAKE (1881), sheriff of Pipestone county, has been a resident and prominent citizen of the county for the past thirty years. He is one in a family of nine living children, the names of the others being Edwin, Linnian, Bert, Charles, Nellie, Olive, George and Minnie, who were born to William and Olive Lake, both natives of Vermont. They moved west to Juneau county, Wisconsin, in the early fifties, and there both are now buried.

It was in that Wisconsin county on October 8, 1858, that William H. Lake of this biography was born. He was educated in the district schools and grew to manhood on the farm of his father, ten miles from the town of Necedah. On leaving home he journeyed direct to Pipestone county, arriving in the then new country in which his fortune was to be cast on

July 6, 1881. He secured employment at farm labor, later managed the farm of Dr. Taylor, and then until 1888 was a farmer on his own account. In the year mentioned Mr. Lake located in the town of Jasper, then in the building, and was there engaged in the dray and transfer business for thirteen years. He then associated himself with W. W. Stearns in the general mercantile business, from which he was called, as a result of the election in the fall of 1906, to assume the duties which he has since faithfully performed as upholder of the dignity of the law in the county.

Mr. Lake was married in Pipestone county on June 8, 1884, to Etta Lobdell, who died in May, 1898. One son, Arthur, now a barber at Marshall, Minnesota, was born to this union on February 12, 1886. A second time, on October 8, 1907, Sheriff Lake was joined in marriage to Ethel Gilmore, the daughter of William B. and Mary Gilmore, early day settlers of the county. Mrs. Lake is a native of Iowa.

For two terms during his residence in Jasper Mr. Lake served as president of the village council. Fraternally he is affiliated with both the Blue Lodge and Chapter of the Masonic order, the Modern Woodmen, Workmen and Yeomen.

JOHN E. MORGAN (1892), a well-known resident of Grange township, owns and farms the northeast quarter of section 34 and the southwest quarter of section 26. He has made most of the improvements on this half-section farm and has a nice home.

Mr. Morgan first saw the light of day in Knox county, Illinois, March 10, 1868. His father, Robert Morgan, who was born in Scotland March 24, 1833, came to this country at the age of seventeen years and lived successively in the states of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Kentucky, Illinois and Iowa, following in different localities his occupation of coal miner. He died August 18, 1893. The mother of our subject is also deceased, her death having occurred March 28, 1910. Margaret (Russell) Morgan was born in Scotland February 26, 1837, and immigrated to the United States with her parents in early girlhood.

On a farm in Polk county, Iowa, to which John at the age of three years moved with his parents from Illinois, our subject was reared, and in the country schools he was educated. On attaining his majority he commenced working out. He farmed one year on his own account in Polk county. In August, 1892, Mr. Morgan moved to Minnesota and Rock county. He farmed for a time in Kanaranzi township and then for seven years was located in Clinton township. From Rock he moved to Pipestone county in the spring of 1901 and has since farmed the land he had bought some time prior, with the exception of one year, 1906. During his residence in Clinton township Mr. Morgan served as a school director. He is ex-clerk of Grange township and of school district No. 18, having held both offices four years. He holds membership in the I. O. O. F. and M. W. A. lodges of Pipestone.

At Ames, Iowa, on February 22, 1894, our subject was married to Jane A. Alderman, the daughter of J. P. and Martha Alderman, of Ames. She was born in Story county, Iowa, October 14, 1866. Mr. and Mrs. Morgan are the parents of three daughters: Mary Mildred, born January 29, 1895; Florence Ruth, born August 15, 1898; and Viva Edith, born February 25, 1900.

LEWIS A. PLANK (1881), a progressive Troy township farmer, owns 320 acres of thoroughly improved farm land in that precinct, the southeast quarter of section 11 and the northeast quarter of section 14. He has resided on the farm first described since 1896.

The parents of our subject were Theodore N. and Emma (Stinard) Plank, who were born and married in New York and then moved west and settled near Waterloo, in Blackhawk county, Iowa. There Lewis was born October 15, 1868. Moving from Iowa, the family resided for a number of years at Anoka, Minnesota, and in 1881 settled in Pipestone county, where the father bought the southeast quarter of section 10, Troy. After continuing his education through the first year of the Pipestone high school, Lewis devoted himself to duties

on the home farm. At the age of twenty-two he engaged in farming for himself. He raises lots of stock, making a specialty of Poland China hogs and Hereford cattle. Mr. Plank owns stock in the farmers' elevators at Pipestone and Cazenovia. He is a member of the Baptist church.

In Flandreau, South Dakota, on November 26, 1896, occurred the marriage of Lewis A. Plank to Sarah Brakke, a native of Norway. She was born June 4, 1868, and is the daughter of Severt and Martha H. Brakke. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Plank. They are Ruth, born May 18, 1898; Willis, born January 15, 1902; Clifford, born August 29, 1905; and Doris, born June 26, 1909.

RICHARD S. SHEPHERD (1879), sheriff of Pipestone county, is the youngest son of Edgar Shepherd, who rounded out a continuous service of twenty-two years as guardian of the peace in Pipestone county, resigning the office of sheriff in 1906 to move to Bakersfield, California, where he now engages in farming. Edgar Shepherd was born near Utica, New York, February 10, 1845, and lived in the Empire state until nineteen years of age, at which time he became a resident of Minnesota. He located at Winona and there married Minerva Smith. After a period of residence in Carthage, Missouri, in 1879 Mr. Shepherd came to Pipestone county and homesteaded the northeast quarter of section 4, Altona township. That farm he operated until 1884, the year he entered upon his long and eventful career as sheriff.

Besides our subject, there were born to Edgar and Minerva (Smith) Shepherd one other son, Edgar S., of Bakersfield, California, and a daughter, Mary M. (Mrs. L. E. Heilig), of Minneapolis. While the family were residents of Carthage, Missouri, on December 10, 1877, Richard was born. Two years later they moved to Pipestone county. He was educated in the public schools of Pipestone and later attended Brown's Business college, of Sioux City. For a time thereafter Mr. Shepherd managed a shoe store for his brother-in-law, L. E. Heilig, and was connected for a year with a like establishment in Mandan, North Dakota. He served at several

different times as deputy sheriff under his father and in 1908 went to Butte county (now Perkins county), South Dakota, and homesteaded land.

Dick Shepherd, as he is familiarly known, is a wrestler of more than local reputation, although he has now retired from the mat. He has met some of the strongest opponents of the welter-weight class in the country and never once suffered defeat until his match with Walter Miller, at St. Paul, for the welter-weight championship. This event was pulled off at a time when Mr. Shepherd had been out of training for a number of years. In 1907 he decisively defeated Johnny Billiter, of Toledo, Ohio, who at that time was the world's light-weight champion.

Richard S. Shepherd was married at Pipestone, in July, 1905, to Julia Roy, a native of the state. Mr. and Mrs. Shepherd have two daughters, Ramona Lois and Maxine Louise.

ARTHUR A. LINCOLN (1893), a successful farmer and large landowner of Altona township, began his earthly career in Scott county, Iowa, the second of August, 1860. His father, Edwin H. Lincoln, a Pennsylvanian by birth, and his mother, Phoebe E. (O'Neill) Lincoln, a native of Ohio, bought land and settled near Davenport, Scott county, in 1853.

Arthur was fourteen years of age when the Lincolns moved to Mills county, of the same state, and there he completed his early education, following which he was for a year a student at Cornell college, at Mount Vernon. On attaining his majority Mr. Lincoln bought land and farmed in Sioux county, Iowa, until coming to Pipestone county in 1893. At that time he bought three quarter sections on section 15, and later became the owner of the southwest quarter of section 10, Altona, making a full section of choice land now controlled by our subject. His herds of stock are large and of the highest grade. Mr. Lincoln is now serving his fourth year as clerk of school district No. 40, and he has been honored with the treasurership of the township for four successive terms. He is a stockholder in the Verdi creamery.

At Canton, South Dakota, on September

18, 1889, Arthur Lincoln was joined in marriage to Kate M. Follrich, the daughter of H. W. and Maria (Meyers) Follrich. She was born in the city of Chicago. Six sons have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln, named as follows: Edwin G., born January 23, 1891; Arthur L., born May 1, 1893; Earl, born August 14, 1896; Paul A., born November 12, 1901; Wayne B., born July 10, 1903; and Robert E., born June 15, 1909. The family are members of the Methodist church.

JOHN STEWART (1885), of Aetna township, has farmed in Pipestone county for more than a quarter of a century. The son of John and Ellen (Heins) Stewart, he was born on a farm in Ireland February 24, 1856. In his native land he was educated, and he resided there until attaining the age of twenty-four years, when he took passage for the new world.

Mr. Stewart was employed in agricultural pursuits in Ontario, Canada, for two years, and from there came to Pipestone county in 1885. He was first located in Fountain Prairie township, but in 1892 he bought and settled upon his farm of today, the northeast quarter of section 18, Aetna. Our subject owns stock in the farmers' elevator at Ruthton. For sixteen years he has been the treasurer of school district No. 58.

Mr. Stewart was married in Canada in May, 1884, to Julia Flanagan, who also was born in the Emerald isle. Three sons, John, Thomas and Michael, have been born to these parents. The family are members of the Catholic church.

NELS N. LUND (1885), with his brother Ben, under the firm name of Lund Bros., carries on a general blacksmithing business in Jasper. He is a Norwegian by birth and education, the son of Nels and Olia (Severson) Lund, both of whom are dead. The death of the mother occurred in the fall of 1897.

Nels was born January 30, 1870. When a lad of fifteen he bade good-bye to native land and crossed the ocean to the new world. He came direct to Luverne, where he was located for about a year.

In Sioux Falls, which was his home for the next three and one-half years, he learned and worked at his chosen trade. From the South Dakota city he removed to Hills, Minnesota, and there he engaged in the blacksmithing business until 1891. That year he settled in Jasper and with his brother opened the shop which they still conduct. They do all kinds of blacksmithing, horseshoeing, machine work, etc.

Mr. Lund was married in Pipestone in 1892 to Maggie O'Brien, a native of Edinburg, Scotland. To them have been born four children, as follows: John, born January 11, 1893; Eval, born December 27, 1897; James, born August 9, 1894; and Jeff, born September 11, 1901. He is a member of the M. W. A. lodge and of the village fire department.

ABRAHAM L. JAYCOX (1886), Sweet township farmer and stock breeder, is the owner of a half section of productive soil in that precinct. He homesteaded the northeast quarter of section 28 in 1886 and several years ago added by purchase the northeast quarter of section 21. Both farms are thoroughly improved, for which Mr. Jaycox is entirely responsible.

Mr. Jaycox is a native Minnesotan, his birth having occurred in Fillmore county April 29, 1865. His father, A. Jaycox, who was born at Cold Springs, New York, in 1829, married Nancy LaFarge, also a native of that New York town. They moved west and settled in Fillmore county in 1856, among the very first settlers of that county. That hardy pioneer served through three years of the civil war as a member of the Seventh Minnesota regiment. In 1876 he moved with his family to Rock county and still resides on the farm, one mile from Luverne, which he bought at that time. There are eight living children in the Jaycox family, who, besides our subject, are Cassie, Garrison, Flavia, Susan, Minnie, Sadie and Nancy.

Abraham was eleven years of age at the time he moved to Rock county. He attended the Luverne public school and until he was twenty-one assisted with the work on the home farm. Then he established his residence in Pipestone county. Mr. Jaycox has held the office of township

treasurer for the past four years. He holds membership in the Odd Fellows lodge.

At Luverne, on February 22, 1892, our subject was united in marriage to Nellie Wiggins, who was born in Postville, Allamakee county, Iowa, April 24, 1870. To Mr. and Mrs. Jaycox have been born the following seven children: Everett, born January 17, 1893; Nellie, born September 13, 1894; Grace, born October 1, 1896; Willard R., born September 24, 1898; Mabel, born March 25, 1901; Gertrude, born November 26, 1902; and Nancy, born July 24, 1906.

ANTON WEBER (1886) has farmed in Pipestone county for a quarter of a century. Born in Germany July 14, 1845, the son of Joseph and Catherine Weber, he was a one year old babe when he crossed the Atlantic and made settlement with his parents in the new world. The family located near Moline, Illinois, where the father farmed until 1852, when he moved to Grant county, Wisconsin. In that county our subject lived and followed agricultural pursuits until making settlement in the southwestern Minnesota county in 1886. At that time he bought his present farm, the southwest quarter of section 22, Gray, upon which he has lived since, with the exception of a few years spent in Elmer township. Mr. Weber is an extensive stock raiser.

While a resident of Grant county, Wisconsin, on June 20, 1870, Mr. Weber was married to Gustina Wiederholdt, who was born in the Badger state December 5, 1850, the daughter of Joseph and Victoria Wiederholdt. Nine children have been born to these parents, named as follows: Edward, John, Anton, Valentine, Sibel, William, Catherine, Frank and Peter. The family are members of the Catholic church. Mr. Weber served as treasurer of Gray township for ten years and was a school director for two decades.

SOAN BERTELSEN (1898) is one of the influential and highly esteemed business men of Ruth-ton. He served efficiently as president of the council of that village for seven years, 1902 to 1909, and it was large-

ly through his efforts that many of the substantial public improvements in Ruth-ton were made. Chief among these must be mentioned the splendid system of graveled streets, unequalled by any other village in the county. Mr. Bertelsen sat as a member of the village council two years previous to being called to the presidency. He is also an ex-member of the board of education.

Mr. Bertelsen is a native Dane and was born September 19, 1848. In the land of his birth he early learned the blacksmith's trade, which he followed in Denmark and for five years after coming to the United States in 1881. During that period he was the proprietor of a shop in Litchfield, Minnesota, which he left in 1886, to become a Lincoln county farmer. He bought 200 acres of raw prairie land which he developed into a finely improved farm. He lived on the place until 1898, when he moved to Ruth-ton, but he still conducts the farm, which lies just over the Pipestone county line. Mr. Bertelsen is engaged in the agricultural implement business, which he established thirteen years ago.

Nine years before leaving Denmark, on November 2, 1872, our subject was married to Annie Johanna Nelson, who was born September 29, 1851. Mr. and Mrs. Bertelsen are the parents of the following four children: Nels C., assistant cashier of the State Bank of Ruth-ton; Mary (Mrs. Con. Naily), of Mankato; Anna (Mrs. Charles Lenderman), of Ruth-ton; and Sorena (Mrs. Henry Harders), of Ruth-ton.

Mr. Bertelsen is a consistent member of the Danish Lutheran church, and it was largely through his influence and effort that the church building and parsonage of that organization were built in Ruth-ton. Fraternally he is a Workman.

FRED E. MARQUARDT (1892) owns and farms the northwest quarter of section 11, Eden township, upon which he has resided since 1892. His parents, William and Amelia (Hagen) Marquardt, both natives of Germany, early settled in Benton county, Iowa, where our subject was born December 9, 1869. He was educated in the district school near his father's farm, of which he assisted in the cultivation until moving to Pipestone county nineteen

years ago. Mr. Marquardt has been engaged in the business of threshing for the past twenty-three years. He is clerk of school district No. 29, a shareholder in the Farmers Elevator company of Ihlen, and a member of the Baptist church.

In the county, on March 7, 1894, the subject of this biography was married to Johannah Rutz, a native of Manitowoc county, Wisconsin. She was born July 5, 1861, the daughter of Andrew and Sophie (Grobie) Rutz, natives of Germany. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Marquardt. Their names are Lydia, Leonard, Merle and Mildred.

ANDREW RAE (1889) is one of the Rae brothers, who are prominently connected with the stone quarrying industry in Jasper. Mr. Rae is one of the original promoters of this most successfully conducted enterprise. The Jasper granite, so much in demand, was first quarried in 1888 by a company styled the Dell Rapids Granite company, of which George Rae, an elder brother of our subject, was one of the organizers. Andrew Rae became an interested party in the concern a year later. The original company was succeeded after a two years' existence by J. M. Poorbaugh & Company, and that firm gave way to the Sioux Valley Stone company.

In 1896 the Jasper Co-operative Stone company was organized with Andrew Rae as president and manager; William Rae, secretary and treasurer; and with Robert Rae and Alexander Rae as other promoters. That company leased and operated the quarries until 1908, when the present controlling concern, the Jasper Stone Quarry company, was formed, with the Rae brothers as leading stockholders. This concern is incorporated for \$50,000 and has the exclusive quarrying rights to the rich building stone beds lying adjacent to the town of Jasper. The present officers of the company are J. O. Meham, president; C. H. Atkinson, auditor; A. L. Rowe, secretary and treasurer; Andrew Rae, quarry manager. From fifty to seventy-five men find employment in the quarries during the season of full operation.

Jasper granite is known far and wide for

its excellence and durability and it has been used in the construction of some of the finest stone structures, both public and private, in the northwest and the country at large. The stone has been shipped as far east as New York City. Some of the prominent buildings Jasper stone has entered into the construction of include the residence of George Van Dusen, in Minneapolis, costing \$150,000; a Methodist church of Chicago, a \$20,000 building; the following buildings in Sioux City with their values: The union depot, \$230,000; Episcopal church, \$60,000; John Poorbaugh, residence, \$25,000; Masonic temple, \$35,000; the University of the Northwest, \$35,000; at Pipestone, the United States Indian school, \$30,000; Masonic temple, \$15,000; the court house; the Masonic temple at Sioux Falls, and the building of the Edwards Publishing company in Chicago. The paving blocks manufactured by the company are in use in many of the principal cities of the country. At the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago this stone received the first award.

In Scotland, on May 2, 1863, the son of George and Barbara (Farquhr) Rae, was born Andrew Rae of this biography. In the land of Scots he was educated and there became proficient in the stone mason's trade, which he learned under the tutelage of his father. At the age of nineteen, in 1882, Andrew crossed the broad Atlantic to cast his fortunes in the new world. He followed his occupation for a year at Waterloo and Montello, Wisconsin, and then went to Sioux Falls, South Dakota, where he worked at his trade. At the end of two years Mr. Rae returned to Scotland, and at Peter Culter, Aberdeenshire, on February 13, 1885, he was joined in marriage to Barbara Wallace.

Accompanied by his bride, the young stone cutter returned to America and to his employment in Sioux Falls. From that point he went to Dell Rapids, in the same vicinity, where he worked at his trade until he became identified with the stone industry at Jasper, his home since the year of the town's founding. Mr. Rae has always been a zealous booster for his home town and has devoted much of his

energy in the promotion of every worthy enterprise that has meant for Jasper's advancement. He was for four years a member of the village council, and he is at the present time chief of the fire department and president of the Commercial club, an active agency in the town's material welfare. Mr. Rae is a prominent member of the Presbyterian church, an organization of which he has served as trustee for the past nineteen years. In a fraternal way he is affiliated with the Blue Lodge of the Masons, of which he is pastmaster, is a member of Triune Chapter No. 51, R. A. M., of Pipestone, and of the Eastern Star, which he serves as worthy patron; the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Brotherhood of America lodges.

CHARLES W. DENHART (1882), a grocer of Pipestone, has been a resident of the county for all except the first five years of his life. He is the son of John Denhart, a Pennsylvanian by birth, who moved at an early day to Stephenson county, Illinois, where he was married to Emma Babcock. In 1882 the family became residents of Pipestone county and have continued so to this date. Besides Charles there is another son, Frank, and a daughter, Myrtle Krull, in the family, and they are also residents of Pipestone.

Stephenson county, Illinois, is the place, and September 18, 1877, the date of the birth of Charles W. Denhart of this review. Coming to Pipestone county five years after his birth, he lived on the Elmer township farm of his father until eighteen years of age. Then he located in Trosky, where he clerked in a store until 1900. At that time he moved to Pipestone and bought a half interest in the grocery business of J. H. Parker, which was then located in the building now occupied by the Fair store. The firm of Parker & Denhart continued for a year and a half, when Mr. Parker sold to John Denhart, the father of our subject. Charles bought his father's interest in the business in 1908 and has since conducted the store under his own name. Denhart's grocery has occupied its present location since 1904.

At Trosky, on May 3, 1899, Mr. Denhart was joined in marriage to Mary Corey,

the daughter of A. P. Corey, of that Pipestone county village. Mrs. Denhart was born in Sioux county, Iowa, October 19, 1879. One daughter, Irma M., was born to these parents, on July 3, 1901. Our subject holds membership in the Odd Fellows (Canton and Encampment) and Workmen lodges.

ELMER C. VAUGHN (1890) is manager of the branch yard of the A. Pilling Lumber company at Hatfield, the headquarters of the concern being at Edgerton. He was born in Mankato, Minnesota, on the last day of October, 1885, and four years later moved to Edgerton with his parents, who are Clark and Christina Vaughn, now residents of Seattle, Washington. Elmer is the only son, but he has a sister, Maud Vaughn.

Our subject was educated in the public schools of Edgerton. He early acquired a more than local notoriety as a base ball player, and for several seasons he earned a livelihood as a salaried ball player. He was signed by the Flandreau and Belle Fourche, South Dakota, teams during the 1908 season. He accepted his present position and moved to Hatfield in June, 1909. The Pilling company carries a stock of hardware and other merchandise at its Hatfield branch. Mr. Vaughn is also the postmaster of Hatfield. He is a member of the K. P. and M. W. A. lodges.

At Edgerton, on July 3, 1907, Elmer C. Vaughn was united in marriage to Ida Mary Glass, who was born at New Hampton, Iowa, February 28, 1866. A daughter, Beulah, was born to these parents, on May 23, 1908.

FRED WIEGERT (1886), who owns and successfully farms a quarter of section 24, range 47, Sweet township, has been a resident of Pipestone county for a quarter of a century. A native of Rochester, New York, he was born August 18, 1867, the son of Frederick and Henrietta (Koeping) Wiegert, natives of Germany. Both parents are deceased, Frederick Wiegert having died March 19, 1909, and his wife August 18, 1906.

During the infancy of our subject the family moved from New York to Freeport, Illinois. On a farm in that locality Fred was reared, and his education was secured in the near by district school. In 1886 the Wiegerts became residents of Pipestone county. They located on the farm in Sweet which the father had bought, the one now conducted by our subject. He lived at home until his marriage in 1893. He then rented land in Sweet township for six years, at the end of that time buying an eighty acre farm on section 18, upon which he lived until the spring of 1911. Then Mr. Wiegert moved to the farm formerly owned by his father. He was for two years the clerk of school district No. 8. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Odd Fellows of Pipestone.

At Pipestone, on May 18, 1893, occurred the marriage of Fred Wiegert of Lillian Green, who was born in Warren township, Winona county, Minnesota, September 15, 1871. Mrs. Wiegert is the daughter of George D. Green, an ex-sheriff of Pipestone county, and Anna E. Green, of Pipestone, who was born at Racine, Wisconsin, January 5, 1840. The Greens were pioneer settlers of Sweet township, arriving in the county March 23, 1879. At the time they homesteaded there were only two other settlers in a neighborhood of wide radius. Mr. Green, who was born in St. Lawrence county, New York, April 19, 1830, died May 17, 1898. Mr. and Mrs. Wiegert are the parents of six living children, as follows: George, born June 22, 1894; Edwin, born February 29, 1896; Lulu, born March 5, 1901; Erma, born December 9, 1905; and William and Wilma, twins, born March 27, 1910. The third son, Henry Leslie, born December 23, 1897, died August 16, 1900.

DETLEF JURGENSEN (1892) has resigned on and farmed the northwest quarter of section 2i, Eden township, since 1892. His land is all thoroughly improved. A native of Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, Mr. Jurgensen was born July 25, 1857. He is the son of Peter and Dorthia (Foss) Jurgensen, both of whom lived and died in the land of the kaiser.

Our subject was educated in the common

schools of his native land. Until he was twenty-six years of age he assisted with the management of the home farm. On severing home ties, he crossed the Atlantic and commenced his career in the new world. Until moving to Pipestone county nineteen years ago, Mr. Jurgensen was a resident of Luzerne, Iowa. He worked at tiling, farm labor, on the railroad and for the last five years of his stay there was section foreman on the Northwestern railroad. Mr. Jurgensen raises Shorthorn cattle. He owns stock in the farmers' elevators at Jasper and Ihlen, and of the latter concern served as director for two terms. He is a director of school district No. 26 and a trustee of the German Lutheran church of Jasper.

Delef Jurgensen was joined in the bonds of matrimony to Emma Hanson in Benton county, Iowa, on July 14, 1887. Mrs. Jurgensen was born in Germany in 1853, the daughter of Hans and Catherine (Hanson) Hanson. To these parents have been born three children: Valte, born April 6, 1891; William, born April 21, 1892; and Roiv, born April 29, 1896.

THOMAS P. JENSEN (1896), well known farmer of Aetna township, became a resident of Pipestone county in 1896. A native Dane, he was born March 18, 1866, the son of Peter and Karen Margareta (Thomassen) Jensen. The former parent was born in 1840, was a laborer by occupation, and died in his native land at the age of fifty-three years. The mother, who was born in 1839, still resides in Denmark.

Thomas was brought up in a small agricultural community and was educated in the Danish country schools. When of sufficient age he commenced to work out as a farm hand. He was twenty-five years old when he immigrated to the United States. He located on a farm near Tyler, Lincoln county, where he resided until 1896, when he became identified with Pipestone county interests. Mr. Jensen bought a homestead right to forty acres on section 2, Rock township, upon which he proved up and resided five years. He bought his present eighty acre farm on section 35, Aetna, in 1898, and on disposing of his Rock township land in 1901 he moved to that location

and has since substantially improved the place. He also farms eighty acres adjoining his farm in Rock township. Our subject is clerk of school district No. 34, and is the secretary of the Co-operative Creamery company of Ruthton. He is a member of the Danish Lutheran church and is president of the Danish Brotherhood lodge of Ruthton.

Before leaving Denmark, on December 8, 1888, Mr. Jensen was married to Sophia Cecilia Nelson, who died July 13, 1895. Two children were born to this union: Nels Peter, born March 5, 1891, and Carl, who was born May 6, 1894, and died April 5, 1895. In Pipestone, on October 30, 1901, Mr. Jensen was joined in marriage to Anna Elizabeth (Rasmussen) Mathiesen, who was born in Denmark December 3, 1864. Mr. and Mrs. Jensen have had two children: Carl, born November 20, 1903, and Wiggo, who was born July 8, 1910, and died January 26, 1911. Mrs. Jensen is the mother of two children by a former marriage. Their names are Edward Mathiesen, born July 26, 1897, and Harry Mathiesen, born June 10, 1899.

OLE H. GREGERSON (1888), who owns and farms the northwest quarter of section 34, Osborne township, has been identified with the agricultural interests of Pipestone county for the past twenty-three years. He is a native Minnesotan and was born in Fillmore county January 24, 1868. His father, Herbjorm Gregerson, settled in that county in 1851, among the very first, and died there in 1880. He was born in Norway in 1831. The mother of our subject, Gro Gregerson, also of Norwegian birth, died August 2, 1870, a year and one-half after his birth. Mrs. Gregerson was born August 9, 1841.

Ole received a district school education and resided on his father's Fillmore county farm until 1888, the year he became twenty years of age. Then he settled in Pipestone county. For a decade he farmed land which he had bought seven miles south of Pipestone, and from there he moved to a half section farm he purchased in Osborne township, four miles east of Edgerton. Two years later he disposed of that property and has since resided on the farm he now

owns, the northwest quarter of section 34. That became his property in 1902. Mr. Gregerson is a leading stock raiser and maintains herds of the highest grades. He belongs to the Norwegian Lutheran church of Edgerton.

At Ihlen, on November 23, 1891, our subject was joined in the bonds of matrimony to Ingeborg Dorothy Ring, the daughter of N. I. and Karen Ring, of Ihlen. Mrs. Gregerson was born in Christiania, Norway, July 31, 1872, and came to the United States at the age of ten years. Five children, three of whom are deceased, have been born to these parents. The two sons living are Herman, born February 12, 1894, and Carl, born April 24, 1897. Nora, born March 22, 1905, died March 8, 1906; Lulu, born April 22, 1907, died July 25, 1907; and Eleanor, born April 21, 1909, died April 22, 1909.

CHARLES FRENCH (1891), a prominent citizen and farmer of Trosky, is a native of Oneida county, New York, where he was born June 6, 1851. He is the son of John and Elizabeth (Wenham) French, both natives of England, who settled in America about 1850. Both parents are deceased, the former having died in New York and the latter in Sioux county, Iowa.

During his eighteenth year Charles French departed from his native state and moved to Blackhawk county, Iowa, where he was a farmer for two years. Then for twenty years, or until 1891, he farmed in Sioux county, of the same state. In the year mentioned he came to Pipestone county and located on his present productive farm, the south half of section 16, Elmer township, land which lies within the corporate limits of the village of Trosky. He is also the owner of another eighty acres on section 16, making a total of 400 acres of which Mr. French superintends the cultivation. He has a finely improved farm, up-to-date in every particular. As a feeder and shipper of high grade stock, he has made a great success.

Mr. French has always taken an active interest in the civic and political affairs of his town and county and has been called upon repeatedly to give of his talent in the furthering of such interests. He was presi-

dent of the Trosky village council for six years and a trustee for four years, and he served as a school director for eight years. He was also Trosky's postmaster for six years. Ever since coming to the country he has served as a member of the republican county central committee. In lodge circles Mr. French is also prominent. He was instrumental in the organization of Trosky Lodge No. 213, I. O. O. F., which received its charter in November, 1893; and also of Trosky Camp No. 3850, M. W. A. He was the first noble grand of the first named order.

In Sioux county, Iowa, on October 22, 1872, Charles French was married to Melissa A. Burkett, who was born in Iowa in October, 1856. To them eleven children have been born, of whom the following seven are living: Emma (Mrs. Alonzo Stewart), Olie (Mrs. Charles Frankenberger), Ella (Mrs. Louis Nilson), Orphie, postmistress of Trosky; Essie, the deputy postmistress; Lester and Lila.

LOUIS BUCHHOLZ (1884), of Holland, is a native of Pipestone county and has spent his entire life within its borders. His parents, Christ and Molly Buchholz, are natives of Germany. They came to America early in life and were married in Grange township. For many years they resided on section 2, Grange, land which they took as a homestead in the late seventies. They now reside in Holland, their son, Henry, having taken charge of the farm. There are five sons in the family, and, with the exception of Louis, they all reside at home. Their names are Henry, Walter, Edward and Albert.

Our subject was born on the Grange township homestead October 20, 1884. He was educated in the district schools and until he was twenty years of age assisted with the work on the home farm. For a number of years thereafter he was employed on other farms in the neighborhood. On May 24, 1910, he located in Holland and in company with William Roschke engaged in the pool hall and restaurant business. On October 5, 1910, Mr. Buchholz purchased Mr. Roschke's half interest and now conducts the business alone.

CLAUS BLOMGREN (1892) has resided in Pipestone county ever since becoming an adopted son of Uncle Sam. He was born in Sweden Decemehr 12, 1877, the son of Carl and Josephine (Anderson) Blomgren. Claus lived on the home farm until fourteen years of age, when he undertook the long journey to America alone. He came direct to Pipestone county and upon his arrival he took employment at farm labor. He was so engaged in Pipestone county until 1900, with the exception of two years spent in the western states and on the Pacific coast. He returned and in 1900 rented land and commenced farming for himself. Since 1904 he has rented and worked the south half of section 33, Gray township. Mr. Blomgren owns stock in the farmers' elevator at Pipestone. He is a member of the M. W. A. and I. O. O. F. lodges and of the Swedish Lutheran church.

Our subject was married at Pipestone on October 9, 1903, to Emma Johnson, also a native of Sweden. She was born February 23, 1886, the daughter of John and Christina (Pearson) Johnson. Four children, three sons and a daughter, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Blomgren. Their names are Clarence, born June 7, 1904; Evelyn, born February 28, 1906; Carl, born June 8, 1907; and Harry, born April 11, 1909.

SAMUEL W. FUNK (1880), recorder of the city of Pipestone for the past nine years, is one of the early day settlers of the county and city. He dates his residence in Pipestone from April 8, 1880. His parents, John C. Funk, a native of Guernsey, Ohio, and Nancy A. (Walker) Funk, whose birth occurred in Christian county, Illinois, were early settlers of Shelby county, Illinois, where both resided until called by death, the former in 1905 and the latter in 1908.

Samuel W. Funk of this review first saw the light of day in Shelby county, Illinois, on January 28, 1860. At an early age he entered the employ of the Eagle Mills, and later assisted with the conduct of his father's farm. He was twenty years of age when he severed home ties and came to Pipestone. He learned the barber's trade in the shop of J. A. Cobb, who was of Spanish descent and familiarly known as

"Jack," his shop being located at the time on the site of the present First National Bank block. Mr. Funk bought out the business of his employer in 1891 and conducted the same for the next seventeen years, when he sold the Calumet shop, as it is known, to L. E. Krull. Since 1908 he has been employed as bookkeeper by the Minneapolis Brewing company, in addition to his duties as city recorder. In a fraternal way our subject is affiliated with the K. P., I. O. O. F., Rebekah, M. W. A. and F. O. E. lodges.

In Pipestone, on April 27, 1885, Samuel W. Funk was joined in marriage to May C. Smith, the daughter of Sam T. Smith and a native of Fillmore county, Minnesota. Three children have been born to this union: Hazel M. (Mrs. Lee Lockwood), of Pipestone; Archie, of Pipestone; and Franklyn S., who is with the Russell Miller Milling company, of Minneapolis.

EARL T. STUART (1882), of Aetna township, was born and has passed his entire life within the borders of Pipestone county. His father, Duncan Stuart, ex-commissioner of Pipestone county, was one of the very earliest of Sweet township's settlers. He homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 4, upon which he lived until his death, with the exception of three years spent in the city of Pipestone. Duncan Stuart was born in Ontario, Canada, September 9, 1823, and died July 5, 1907. He grew to manhood in his native province, and for many years prior to his settlement in Pipestone county was a resident of Fillmore county, Minnesota. While living in that county he was married to Jenet Hutton, who was born in Scotland, near the city of Glasgow. Jenet (Hutton) Stuart survives her husband and makes her home in Spring Valley, Minnesota.

Four children were born to the parents, of whom two, Jennie (Mrs. S. B. Duea) and Norman, are deceased. Earl is the younger of the two surviving, the other member of the family being Mrs. William Brown. He was born on the old homestead in Sweet township September 19, 1882. He attended the district schools of his home precinct, the public schools of Pipestone, and later was a student in Brown's Business college of

Sioux City. He lived on the Sweet township farm until twenty-five years of age, then until 1909 was a resident of Pipestone. That year he commenced farming in Aetna township. During the winter of 1909-10 Mr. Stuart was a stock-buyer in Ruthton. He bought his present eighty acre farm on section 22 in the summer of 1910 and has since resided thereon. In addition to that land he also owns the southwest quarter of section 23, which he rents out, and has a controlling interest in a 240 acre Murray county farm, five miles east of Ruthton.

Earl T. Stuart was married in Troy township March 11, 1909, to Rose B. Keller, who was born in Iowa June 23, 1890. They are the parents of a son, Gerald, born September 29, 1910.

ALBERT GAMBER (1894) has for seventeen years past reaped prosperity from Pipestone county's productive soil. He is the owner of 240 acres of section 32, Osborne township, which he farms. Mr. Gamber is credited with being the largest cultivator of potatoes in the county. He is largely interested in the breeding of high grade stock and makes a specialty of Short-horn cattle and Poland China hogs. He feeds and ships all his stock.

A native of Rock Island county, Illinois, Albert Gamber was born July 29, 1857, a son of Nicholas and Christina (Linke) Gamber, both born in Germany. Father and mother are both deceased, the mother having died in Minnesota in 1902, and the father in Illinois in 1905. Our subject grew to manhood on his father's farm in Illinois. That he rented and commenced working for himself at the age of twenty-four, moving to Minnesota in 1894. He then bought his present land in Pipestone county and has since lived thereon. Mr. Gamber is treasurer of school districts No. 50 and 52, and is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator company of Edgerton. He is a member of the M. W. A. and K. P. lodges.

Albert Gamber was united in marriage at Rapid City, Illinois, on December 27, 1881, to Katherine Haller, a native of Germany, born August 22, 1859. She is the daughter of David Haller, who died in Minnesota in 1909, and of Katherine (Wosner) Haller, who survived her husband and resides in Illi-

nois. Mr. and Mrs. Gamber are the parents of the following children—nine boys—(two children passed away at the ages of one day and two days): Charles N., born July 13, 1883; David G., born August 27, 1884; Joseph J., born December 29, 1885; Gottlieb G., born April 6, 1887; Albert F., born March 10, 1891; Andy G., born September 13, 1892; and Howard B., born January 28, 1901. The last named son died on July 10, 1910.

WILLIAM P. EGGERS (1893), one of Sweet township's progressive agriculturists, is a native German. He was born April 17, 1867, the son of John and Margaret (Disselkamp) Eggers. William was fourteen years of age when the family immigrated to America and settled in Davenport, Iowa. There they lived two years and then went to Dysart, Iowa. On a farm in that locality Mr. Eggers grew to manhood.

In 1893 the Eggers moved to Pipestone county, the father, John Eggers, having bought the northwest quarter of section 34, Sweet township. That farm has been developed into one of the finely improved farms of the precinct. In 1901 William bought the southwest quarter of section 34, where he has since resided. Mr. Eggers raises a large amount of stock. He is treasurer of school district No. 24 and a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator company of Pipestone and of Ihlen.

At Dysart, Iowa, on February 28, 1894, William Eggers was united in marriage to Annie D. Jessen, who was born in Scott county, Iowa, October 10, 1870, the daughter of Hans and Anna (Jurgensen) Jessen. The following named six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Eggers: Theodore J. Eggers, born February 10, 1895; Maggie D. Eggers, born April 30, 1896; Hilda E. Eggers, born May 2, 1899; William H. Eggers, born March 26, 1901; Harry H. Eggers, born April 1, 1904; and Irene C. Eggers, born January 26, 1906.

SAMUEL T. MARSHALL (1887), a business man of Pipestone, has been a resident of the county for nearly a quarter of a century. He is the oldest in a family of

five children, the others being John L., William F., Louise K. and Eleanor J., who were born to the parents, John C. and Eleanor C. (Young) Marshall. The father, John C. Marshall, came originally from Perthshire, Scotland. Mrs. Marshall was born in New York state, of English parentage. They came to Pipestone county in 1887 and there both are buried.

In the town of Alderly, Dodge county, Wisconsin, on November 7, 1869, the birth of the subject of this review occurred. Samuel attended the village school and completed his education later in the Pipestone high school. He was eighteen years of age when the family moved to Pipestone county and located on a farm near Edgerton. He assisted his father on the home farm until 1897, during which time he and his father were engaged jointly in breeding full blooded Galloway cattle and Percheron horses. Then for three years following he conducted the place himself. Mr. Marshall was married in 1901 and commenced farming on his own account.

Two years later, in 1903, our subject retired from active farming and moved to the village of Trosky, where he bought the Bank of Trosky, a private banking institution owned by Briggs & Evans, and this business he conducted two years. Mr. Marshall next moved to Jasper to engage in the hardware and implement business. After residing there a year he took J. P. Gregg as a partner in the business, and it was to him that he finally disposed of his Jasper interests in the fall of 1907. Immediately thereafter Mr. Marshall established his present residence in Pipestone. He dealt in buggies and vehicles until the spring of 1909, when he bought the farm machinery business of John Evan, combined the stocks, and now conducts a first-class establishment.

Mr. Marshall has also land interests that demand his attention. He owns land in Osborne township and superintends the estate of his father in Gray township. He is an ex-recorder of the village of Trosky. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge. At Brookings, South Dakota, on March 26, 1901, Samuel T. Marshall was wedded to Margaret Murphy, a native of Iowa.

A. V. W. BRUINS (1887) farms the west half of section 36, Fountain Prairie township, land which he owns. His mother Aaltje (Rens) Bruins, who resides in Sioux county, Iowa, was born in Holland in 1837. The father of our subject, J. W. Bruins, who died in Pipestone county in 1888, also came originally from The Netherlands, where he was born in 1835. He came to America twelve years later with his parents. The Bruins were pioneers of Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, and for many years they hauled their farm products to market at Milwaukee, eighty-five miles distant.

In Fond du Lac county, on March 21, 1877, occurred the birth of A. V. W. Bruins of this review. He was ten years of age when the family moved to Pipestone county and located on the farm he now operates, which the father had bought. The elder Mr. Bruins died within a year, and soon after that unfortunate event the family returned to the old Wisconsin home. In Fond du Lac county our subject passed the next ten years of his life, attending the district schools and assisting with the work on the home farm. In 1898 he accompanied the family to Sioux county, Iowa, and there lived for another decade. Mr. Bruins learned the carpenter's trade, an occupation he followed for the greater part of his residence in Sioux county. He settled on the Pipestone county farm and commenced farming in 1908.

In Sioux Center, Iowa, on April 14, 1904, Mr. Bruins was joined in marriage to Hattie Mouw, who was born in Sioux county in 1884. To this union have been born three children: William J., born February 19, 1905; Bennie M., born November 18, 1906; and Alice Marie, born September 17, 1908.

HERMAN H. HELLWINCKEL (1899) is a large farmer and stock raiser of Osborne township. He rents and farms the south half of section 30 and the north half of section 31 and is the owner of the southwest quarter of section 29, which he has also farmed since 1907. He is an extensive breeder and shipper of high grade stock, making a specialty of Durham cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs.

The subject of this biography was born

in Hanover, Germany, August 16, 1866, the son of Heinrich and Margretta (Sundermann) Hellwinckel. The father owned a farm of 300 acres, upon which Herman was reared and worked until coming to America at the age of twenty-five years. He was educated in the village school near by the home farm. The date of his immigration to this country was 1891. He made the town of Missouri Valley, Iowa, his destination, and near that place he worked for a year at farm labor. He then moved to the city of Council Bluffs and secured employment in the Grand hotel. After a year, he became connected with the New Mayer hotel, in the same city, and served that hostelry in the capacity of bookkeeper for seven years, or until establishing his residence in Pipestone county in 1899. Mr. Hellwinckel is a director of the Farmers Elevator company of Edgerton. He has been one of the township supervisors for the past seven years and is a member of the German Lutheran church.

At Council Bluffs, on February 6, 1895, our subject was joined in marriage to Lena Scheel, a native of Davenport, Iowa. She was born May 9, 1865, the daughter of Peter and Amalia (Hintz) Scheel, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Illinois. To Mr. and Mrs. Hellwinckel the following five children have been born: Herman, born December 25, 1895; Carl, born August 4, 1897; Emma, born September 3, 1900; Rose, born June 22, 1903; and Ada, born August 23, 1909.

W. J. DINGLER (1896), merchant and postmaster of Cazenovia, has been a resident of the county for fifteen years. A native Minnesotan, he was born at Rochester on September 23, 1866, the son of John Dingler and Carrie (Martig) Dingler, both natives of Switzerland. When our subject was two years old the family moved from Rochester to a farm in Dodge county, where the parents are still living.

Mr. Dingler was educated in the district schools of Dodge county and later attended Beaman's Business college at Red Wing. Until he was seventeen years of age he assisted with the work on the home farm. He then secured employment with a threshing crew during the fall months and spent

eleven winters working in the pineries. He also engaged in farming and threshing for himself in Dodge and Morrison counties until selecting Pipestone county as his future residence in 1896.

Our subject was for the first two years engaged in farming the northwest quarter of section 6, Troy, then was a resident of Burke township, near Woodstock, for a year. Mr. Dingler returned to Troy and farmed half of section 5 until the fall of 1902, when he located in Cazenovia to accept the management of the Davenport elevator, a position he held for seven years. On October 7, 1903, he bought the general mercantile business of Joseph Moore and has since conducted the store. He was for four years also engaged in the coal business, but sold out that line to the Farmers Elevator company in 1906. Mr. Dingler was commissioned postmaster of Cazenovia on December 23, 1903. He has been clerk of Troy township since 1904 and was first elected to the clerkship of school district No. 64 in 1905. He owns stock in the Farmers Elevator company of Cazenovia and has done considerable to advance its interests.

On August 30, 1896, at Fairpoint, Goodhue county, W. J. Dingler was joined in marriage to Rose Fellman, and to this union two children have been born: Florence, born March 30, 1898, and William, born March 12, 1905. Mrs. Dingler was born in Cherry Grove township, Goodhue county, June 15, 1879, the daughter of George and Christina (Sorn) Fellman, both natives of Germany and now residents of Pipestone. Mr. Dingler is an active worker in lodge circles. He was one of the organizers of the Modern Woodmen camp at Cazenovia in 1905, and he has been clerk of the lodge since. He also holds membership in Hope Lodge No. 89, I. O. O. F., and in the Encampment and Canton branches of the I. O. O. F. lodge at Pipestone.

LEWELLYN G. JONES (1879), one of the early day settlers of Elmer township, became the treasurer of Pipestone county on January 1, 1911, an honor conferred upon him by the voters of the county at the November election preceding.

The father of our subject was J. O. Jones,

a native Welshman who commenced an American residence in 1846. He was a pioneer of the pioneers in Green Lake county, Wisconsin, his home for nineteen years. On quitting Wisconsin Mr. Jones made settlement in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he died June 11, 1908, at the age of seventy years. J. O. Jones married Margaret A. Jones in Green Lake county, and to this union were born two sons and a daughter: Llewellyn G., of this review; Joseph F., of Northfield, Minnesota; and Maggie A. Newmiller, of Granger, Fillmore county. The mother died October 19, 1908.

On the old Jones farm in Green Lake county, Wisconsin, on the tenth of September, 1863, occurred the birth of our subject. Two years later he moved with the family to Fillmore county, Minnesota, and located with them on a farm near the town of Granger. In 1879, when but a youth of sixteen, L. G. Jones came to Pipestone county to take charge of the property his father had acquired in the then new and undeveloped country. The elder Mr. Jones purchased the southwest quarter of section 17, Elmer township, from the railroad company, and that barren land the son transformed into a productive and valuable farm, of which he came into possession after a few years.

In 1884 Mr. Jones left Pipestone county for a period and spent the next four years in Spink county, Dakota territory, where he was engaged in agricultural pursuits and in teaching school. On returning to Pipestone county he located once more on his Elmer township farm, which he substantially improved and made his residence until called upon to serve his county in an official capacity, moving then to the city of Pipestone. For eleven years Mr. Jones, in addition to managing his agricultural interests, was employed as salesman and collector by the Pipestone plumbing and windmill supply firm of Reader Brothers, and found his field of activity in the county at large.

In Trosky, on November 19, 1890, the subject of this sketch was joined in the bonds of matrimony to Hattie E. Griffin, a native of Delaware, Iowa, and a daughter of J. A. Griffin, one of the county's stalwart pioneers. To this union one daughter,

Byrma E., has been born. Mr. Jones is affiliated with the Masonic and Encampment lodges at Pipestone, and the Odd Fellows and Modern Woodmen of Trosky.

CARL L. ENGBRETSON (1879), one of Jasper's bankers, is a native of Rock county. He was born on his father's homestead, the northeast quarter of section 35, Martin township, on September 26, 1879. He is the son of Lars and Martha (Hanson) Engbretson, both natives of Norway. They are now residents of Hills.

Carl grew to manhood on the home farm and was a valuable aid to his father in carrying on the work. His education was received at the Larchwood (Iowa) normal school and at Pleasant View college, Ottawa, Illinois. From the latter institution he was graduated in 1897. Then for several years he was a resident of Chicago, entering the employ of E. B. Miller & Co., wholesale coffee dealers. For a time he was cashier and then was promoted to a city salesmanship. After serving in such capacity for some time, he was given a larger territory, becoming the general salesman for the firm in South Dakota, with headquarters in Sioux Falls. For five years he made that his business. While in Sioux Falls he was married on October 15, 1905, to Margaret A. Steiner, whose birth occurred in St. Paul in November, 1879. To them one son, Carl L., Jr., was born, on October 15, 1908.

In September, 1909, Mr. Engbretson gave up his position with the Chicago firm and moved to Jasper, where he opened a real estate office in company with his brother Martin. In the same month he assisted in the organization of the Farmers State Bank of Jasper and was elected its first president. The bank opened for business October 2, 1909, the date of the grant of charter, with a capital of \$10,000. It is now in successful operation and does a general banking business. The officers are: C. L. Engbretson, president; M. C. Nelson, vice president; T. M. Alexander, cashier. These officers with the exception of Mr. Nelson, together with G. W. Vickerman, A. G. Kartrude, W. L. Kartrude, H. G. Holter and John Rudd, constitute the board of directors.

Mr. Engbretson is a member of the Masons, the United Commercial Travelers and the Ancient Mystic Order of Bagmen.

CHRISTIAN I. RING (1877), of Edgerton, has been the judge of probate of Pipestone county since 1901 and is one of the early settlers of both Pipestone and Rock counties. He is a native of Norway and was born June 11, 1848, on a farm near the city of Christiania. After securing a common school education he was a clerk in several of the leading stores in Christiania. His parents, Iver H. and Inga (Jacobson) Ring, are both buried in the old country. Besides Christian of this sketch, there are two other sons and one daughter living, as follows: Mary (Mrs. Torwald Bock), of Norway; Jacob I., of Norway; and Nels, of Ihlen, Pipestone county.

On attaining his majority in 1869 Christian I. Ring immigrated to the United States and first located in Allamakee county, Iowa. For three years he was a farmer, then until 1877 he clerked in a store in Lansing, with the exception of six months in 1875, when he returned for a visit to his native land. On leaving Lansing, he went direct to Luverne and entered the employ of William Jacobsen, a pioneer merchant and banker of that place. At that time Pipestone county was unorganized.

For six months in 1879 Mr. Ring was located at Flandreau, South Dakota, then moved to the new village of Pipestone. For two years he clerked in the store of his brother-in-law, H. L. Johnson, and then entered the employ of the John Paul Lumber company. Soon after he was transferred to Edgerton to manage the firm's interests at that point. In 1890 our subject bought his employer's lumber yard at Edgerton, trading his homestead in Eden township, which he had taken in 1878, for the same. After a successful business career of ten years he was forced to sell out on account of ill health. On resuming active labor he was for several years engaged in carpenter work and in the lumber yard of A. Pilling. In 1900 Mr. Ring was elected on the republican ticket to the office of judge of probate and has been re-elected at each election since then. Although the discharge of his official duties necessitates his pres-



C. I. RING

Pipestone County's Judge of Probate.



R. E. THOMAS

A Pioneer Settler of Osborne Township.



C. S. HOWARD

A Pioneer Merchant of Edgerton.



C. L. ENGBRETSON

President of the Farmers State
Bank of Jasper and of the
Engebretson Land Company.

ence in Pipestone, he has maintained his residence at Edgerton.

Mr. Ring has at all times been a prominent participant in all matters of local and civic interest. He was a school clerk and justice of the peace in the early days of Eden township, and was also a clerk of Osborne township. He was the first village recorder of Edgerton and served in that capacity for a great many years. For a score of years prior to 1910 he meted out justice as the judicial officer of his home town. Mr. Ring is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, the M. W. A. lodge and the Bankers' Union.

At Lansing, Iowa, on the twenty-fifth of March, 1885, Christian I. Ring and Hokina Johnson were united in marriage. Mrs. Ring was born in Norway August 27, 1844, and came to this country with her parents eleven years later. One daughter, Violet M., was born to this union, October 28, 1889.

C. S. HOWARD (1878), a pioneer merchant of Edgerton and the proprietor of one of the leading department stores in Pipestone county, is a native of St. Lawrence county, New York. He was born December 8, 1842, the son of Adam and Luvica (Ramsey) Howard, both natives of Vermont and of Scotch-Irish parentage.

Our subject was educated in the public schools of his native county and at the age of nineteen went to the then frontier county of Eau Claire, Wisconsin, where he labored in the woods and on the river for more than a decade. Minnesota was his next goal, and in Leota township, Nobles county, and in Murray county he filed on timber claims. That was until 1878, the year his long and prosperous residence in Edgerton began. In the infant community of those days Mr. Howard planted the seeds of his present extensive mercantile business. The commodious brick structure of two stories and a basement, 50x100 feet in dimensions, was erected in 1902.

In addition to his mercantile business. Mr. Howard is actively engaged in the grain business and in the management of his large farming interests. He was one of the organizers of a farmers' elevator company, and in 1895 bought the elevator

and business of the company and has since personally conducted it. He is the owner of 1300 acres of farm land, which include the old tree chain in Leota township. Mr. Howard is the president of the State Bank of Edgerton. He has been called repeatedly to fill offices of trust in his town and has served as president of the council and president of the board of education on several occasions. He is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen.

Mr. Howard was united in marriage in Edgerton on January 10, 1889, to Jessie Patterson, who was born in Elgin, Illinois. They have no children.

ROBERT E. THOMAS (1878) is an early settler of Pipestone county and has maintained a continuous residence of thirty-three years on the southeast quarter of section 6, Osborne township, land he homesteaded in 1878. He is the son of Orrison and Isabelle (Brown) Thomas, natives, respectively, of New Hampshire and Massachusetts. They were early settlers of Racine county, Wisconsin, where occurred the birth of our subject on July 2, 1850. Both parents died in Wisconsin within the past ten years.

In early boyhood Robert moved with his family to Sauk county, Wisconsin, where he received a common school education and grew to manhood. As he matured he assisted his father in the management of the home farm and at certain periods worked with a logging crew on the Wisconsin river. Mr. Thomas was one of the very first to locate in Osborne township and has enjoyed a season of prosperity since establishing his residence there. He is a large stock raiser and makes a specialty of breeding Shorthorn cattle. He has been the treasurer of school district No. 43 since its organization in 1885. Mr. Thomas was for five years a member of the township board of supervisors. He owns stock in the Enterprise Telephone company, and fraternally he is affiliated with the Masonic order.

Mr. Thomas was married in Wisconsin on February 15, 1881, to LaEvora Himebaugh, a native of Wisconsin and the daughter of Peter and Maria (Eastman) Himebaugh, the former of New York birth and the latter of Pennsylvania stock. Mrs.

Thomas died May 12, 1896. Two children were born to this union: Orrison B., born August 2, 1884; and Starr, born May 13, 1890.

PETER MADSEN (1893), who owns the north half of the southeast quarter of section 16, Aetna township, has a thoroughly improved piece of farm property which he has successfully cultivated since 1893. He raises stock quite extensively. A native of North Jylland, Denmark, he was born December 23, 1867, the son of Anders and Christina (Jensen) Madsen. The former parent still conducts the old home farm in Denmark, but the mother died in 1894.

Peter passed the first twenty-one years of his life in the land of the Danes, and there he was educated. On arriving in America he journeyed to Shelby county, Iowa, where for a year he was employed at farm labor. Then our subject went to Manilla, Crawford county, to accept employment in a brick yard, and from there, a year later, he moved to Sioux City, where he became a laborer in one of the large packing plants. At the end of four years he moved from that city to his present Pipestone county farm. Mr. Madsen is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator company and the Co-operative Creamery company of Ruthton. He is the efficient road overseer of district No. 2. Our subject holds membership in the Modern Woodmen lodge and the Danish Lutheran church.

In Aetna township, on October 7, 1893, Peter Madsen was joined in marriage to Carrie Nelson, who was born in Denmark November 6, 1863, the daughter of Nels and Christina (Olson) Christianson. Five children have been born to these parents, whose names are Annie C., Etna J., Einer K., William and Nels P.

ERIC E. LARSON (1891) has farmed in Eden township for the past twenty years. He now lives on the southeast quarter of section 2 and has a thoroughly improved farm. He is an extensive breeder of high grade stock, making a specialty of Short-horn and Durham cattle and Poland China hogs. Mr. Larson is a stockholder in the farmers' elevator at Ihlen and is treasurer of school district No. 29.

Eric and Bertha S. (Egland) Larson, the parents of our subject, came to America as children from their native land of Norway and were married in Illinois. They later moved to Story county, Iowa, where Eric E. Larson of this sketch was born on October 18, 1862. He received a district school education and lived on the home farm until twenty-three years of age, when he commenced the shaping of his own career. For a year he bought grain for the C. B. Christianson Elevator company at Story City, then rented land and farmed in Story county until making settlement in Pipestone county in 1891. At that time he bought the northeast quarter of section 4, Eden, which he sold after three years to become the owner of the northwest quarter of section 22. He sold that land after a three years' residence thereon and next bought the southeast quarter of section 16. He farmed that land until buying his present farm, with the exception of two years when he rented and worked the farm of his father on section 9.

Mr. Larson has been thrice married. His first wife was Sophia Christenson, whom he wedded in Hamilton county, Iowa, in 1886, and to them one daughter, Emma, was born June 26, 1888. Mrs. Larson was born March 4, 1861, and died September 11, 1888. His second wife was Helen Christenson, who died March 8, 1892. To that union were born two children, Martin, on December 30, 1889, and Helen, on February 25, 1892. Eric E. Larson was married to Christina Michaelson on January 25, 1893, and to them two daughters have been born: Ida, born December 8, 1893, and Betsey A., born April 24, 1899. Mrs. Larson was born in Nos Hedemarken, Norway, April 24, 1868, and is the daughter of Christian and Engebor (Mengso) Michaelson. The family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

JOHN RUDD (1896) has been engaged in the mercantile business in Jasper since 1902. He is a member of the firm of Aslesen Bros. & Rudd. Since October, 1909, he has also served as cashier of the Farmers State Bank.

The first twenty-two years of Mr. Rudd's life were spent in Norway, in which coun-

try he was born November 28, 1850. His early education was received by private tutorship from officers in the army. His father had been a wealthy man but lost his fortune when John was four or five years old. When a lad of eight he began to hustle for himself, his first work being that of an office boy. Later he became connected with the civil engineering corps of the army and continued in the government service until the year of his departure for the United States. That was in 1872.

His first location was at Brownsville, Minnesota, where he worked on the railroad until the following spring. Then he homesteaded in Minnehaha county, South Dakota, which was his home until 1896. During the first years of his residence in the then frontier country, Mr. Rudd lived in a small shack and hauled supplies overland from Sioux Falls to Worthington.

On January 8, 1880, Mr. Rudd was married to Mary Ellen Erickson. Mrs. Rudd was born in Norway in August, 1862, and accompanied her parents, Erick and Møren Erickson, to the United States when a child six years of age. The family first settled in Blanchardville, Wisconsin, but in 1875 they removed to Minnehaha county, South Dakota, and there both of the parents died. Mr. and Mrs. Rudd have no children.

In 1896 Mr. Rudd left the scene of his labors for twenty-three years and moved to Hills, Minnesota. There for a number of years he was employed as grain buyer for the Kansas City Grain company and also for E. A. Brown. In 1902 he changed to his present residence in Jasper, entering into partnership with Aslesen Bros. in the general merchandise and clothing business, in which he is still interested. He was one of the organizers of the Farmers State Bank and became its first cashier. He is also a member of the board of directors of the bank.

For two terms Mr. Rudd served as a member of the village council, and in 1908 he was elected its president. While a resident of Minnehaha county, Mr. Rudd held all the township offices in the gift of the electors. He holds membership in the Masonic and A. O. U. W. lodges.

SAMUEL H. WILSON (1894), of Troy township, owns 800 acres of Pipestone county land. Of this, all but a quarter section in Grange township, is located in Troy. Mr. Wilson devotes special attention to the raising of high grade stock, which he ships to the large markets. He also buys stock.

The son of Hugh Wilson, a native of Ireland, and of Margory (Jameson) Wilson, of Scotch birth, our subject was born January 6, 1861, in Scott county, Iowa, where his parents settled at an early date. Samuel was seven years of age when the family moved to Benton county, and there he received his schooling and grew to manhood on the home farm. At the age of thirty-one he received an eighty acre farm from his father, which he finally sold in 1894 and invested in his first Pipestone county real estate, the southwest quarter of section 12, Troy, which has ever since been his home. Mr. Wilson owns stock in the Farmers Elevator company of Cazenovia. He has been a member of the township board for twelve years, is clerk of school district No. 62, and with his family belongs to the Methodist church.

In Benton county, Iowa, on February 12, 1891, the subject of this biography was joined in marriage to Sadie Gillespie, who was born in that Iowa county December 4, 1871, the daughter of Robert J. and Emma (Kuhn) Gillespie. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson have nine children, their names being Hugh, Archie, Gail, Grace, Leland, Dorthea, Leslie, Lillian and Hollis.

LEE W. LOCKWOOD (1884) one of the owners of the Calumet, Pipestone's metropolitan hotel, has been identified with a number of successful business enterprises in that flourishing city. He is a native son of Pipestone county, his birth having occurred in the village of Edgerton on June 2, 1884. That town was his home for the first seventeen years of his life. Lee acquired an education in the Pipestone high school and later completed a course in the Mankato Commercial college.

Our subject was only sixteen years of age when he commenced an active career in the world of business. At that time,

in partnership with O. A. Green, he bought the plant of the Edgerton Enterprise, which was conducted by Green & Lockwood with gratifying success for two years. Lee disposed of his interest in the paper to Ed. Yocom. Immediately thereafter he began his residence in the city of Pipestone. He was connected with the wholesale grocery firm of Hornby, Nichols & Parker in an office capacity and also as a traveling salesman for an extended period. He resigned his position with that company to engage in the retail grocery business in Pipestone, succeeding Phil Riley.

Mr. Lockwood's next venture was the development of the county's telephone system, through the Enterprise Telephone company, which engaged extensively in the work of construction. In company with his father, William Lockwood, our subject became the owner of the Laird-Norton stock of hardware, and the firm of Lockwood & Son, hardware dealers, was launched. Later Lee W. Lockwood became the sole owner of the large business, finally disposing of the store in July, 1909. While a hardware merchant he acquired a half interest in the Calumet hotel, an interest which he still maintains, his partner being F. E. Redner.

Lee Lockwood is heavily interested in Idaho real estate in the zone of the North Side Canal company, which embraces a territory of more than 30,000 acres of irrigated land. With his father he has commenced a development project that is meeting with most enthusiastic favor. A company has been organized to assume the development of a townsite, which has been named Hazelton, in honor of the wife of our subject. Mr. Lockwood is directly interested in a bank and lumber business in the new town.

The parents of the subject of this review are William Lockwood, a native of Oswego, New York, and Ida May (Burdett) Lockwood. William Lockwood, who is an ex-member of the Minnesota legislature, became a resident of Minnesota in the early seventies. He was married to Ida May Burdett in Dodge Center in 1878. She died in 1897. Lee is the only son. William Lockwood was one of the pioneer settlers of the Pipestone county village

of Edgerton, having located there in 1878, and was identified most prominently with the life of that town for many years. They moved to Pipestone in 1900. Mr. Lockwood owns considerable valuable town property in Pipestone, in which is included the ownership of the Calumet hotel building, and also has extensive real estate interests in the county, the northern part of the state, and in Idaho. In 1898 William Lockwood married M. Estelle Horton, a native of Oswego, New York.

In Pipestone, on June 17, 1908, Lee W. Lockwood was married to Hazel M. Funk, a native of that city. She was born on April 17, 1886, and is a daughter of Samuel W. Funk, a pioneer resident of Pipestone and its city recorder for many years. One daughter, Beth, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Lockwood, on July 4, 1910. In a fraternal way our subject is affiliated with the Blue Lodge and Chapter branches of the Masonic order and with the United Commercial Travelers. Of the last named lodge he is the past senior councillor of the Pipestone order.

CHARLES ZOBEL (1896), an Osborne township farmer, owns and resides on the northwest quarter of section 18. He is interested largely in the raising of thoroughbred stock, his specialty being Shorthorn cattle. He was born in Prussia, Germany, August 30, 1852, and is the son of a small farmer, who also did tailoring work.

Charles was reared on a farm and educated to his native land, which continued to be his home until after his eighteenth birthday. Then he crossed the Atlantic alone to join a brother and sister, who had settled some years before in Lee county, Illinois. He engaged in farm labor in that county until 1885, going then to Tama county, Iowa. There he rented land and farmed until 1896, the year of his settlement in Pipestone county. He has always lived on the same farm in Osborne township, land he bought three years previous to coming to the county. Mr. Zobel is a member of the German Evangelical church and of the I. O. O. F. and M. W. A. lodges.

In Tama county, Iowa, on the ninth of March, 1881, occurred the marriage of Charles Zobel to Catherine E. Heckroth, who was born in Germany May 30, 1882,

the daughter of Peter and Christina (Sigmán) Heckroth. One daughter, Christina Elizabeth, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Zobel, on April 2, 1882. She was married December 4, 1901, to Robert J. Butts, of Edgerton. Mr. Butts was born in Rushford, Minnesota, July 7, 1872, and is the son of Robert J. and Catherine J. (Miller) Butts, natives of Pennsylvania, early settlers of Fillmore county, and now of Bellingham, Washington. A son, named Charles Alvin Butts, was born to Robert J. and Christina Elizabeth Butts on October 5, 1910.

HENRY KELLEN (1890) is one of the progressive agriculturists of Burke township, in which precinct he has maintained a residence since 1890. He was born across the seas, in Luxemburg, on February 24, 1865, the son of John and Mary (Syler) Kellen.

John Kellen, farmer by occupation, died at the age of forty-five years, when our subject was four years old. The mother of Henry Kellen died in 1900. She was seventy-two years of age at the time of her decease.

Henry grew to manhood in the land of his birth. He was reared a farmer's son, and in his youth was apprenticed to learn the blacksmith's trade, which he followed for three years before departing for the United States to make his home and fortune. That was in the year 1886. Mr. Kellen was located near Dubuque, Iowa, for a year, then was a farm laborer in Sioux county for three years. He bought a portion of his present farm on section 36, Burke township, in 1889, but did not move to Pipestone county until the year following. The first summer in Minnesota he put in a crop in the locality of Lake Wilsen, commencing at the same time to break his land in Pipestone county.

Until 1897 our subject farmed rented land in Burke in addition to his own place, and for the first few years was so engaged in partnership with a brother. He built on his farm in 1897 and has lived on the place continuously since that date. He now has a fine home and one of the precinct's thoroughly improved farms. Mr. Kellen raises considerable stock, making a specialty of Shorthorn cattle. He has

for six years acceptably filled the office of clerk of school district No. 21. Our subject was one of the organizers of the Farmers Elevator company of Woodstock and is the present secretary of that flourishing enterprise. With his family he belongs to the Catholic church.

At Remsen, Iowa, on March 24, 1894, occurred the marriage of Henry Kellen to Annie Maus, also a native of Luxemburg. She was born on the twelfth of April, 1872. They are the parents of the following named children: Henry John, born January 20, 1895; Mary Elizabeth, born March 23, 1896; Annie Cecilia, born July 11, 1897; Nick Anton, born December 24, 1900; Rosie, born April 13, 1903; and Lenora, born February 23, 1905.

WILLIAM RAE (1889) is one of the principal stockholders in, and the general manager of, the Jasper Stone Quarry company, the concern which operates the extensive quarrying interests in Jasper, the leading industry in Pipestone county's second town. Mr. Rae commenced his residence in Jasper during the year of its founding and has ever since been prominently identified in many of the movements that have contributed to its upbuilding.

A native of Aberdeenshire, Scotland, William Rae first saw the light of day on May 24, 1869. In the land of his birth he received a common school education, at the age of seventeen he severed home ties and journeyed to America. For one year he was located at Holyoke, Massachusetts, where he was employed as a painter in a sash and door factory. In March, 1887, Mr. Rae concluded his residence in New England and set out for the west. Dell Rapids, South Dakota, was his destination, and there he spent two years familiarizing himself with the many details of the stone cutter's trade.

When the quarries of the Sioux Valley Stone company, in which George Rae, the brother of our subject, was interested, were opened in the village of Jasper, then just coming into being, William commenced an engagement with the new concern and has since been identified with the industry through the successive changes in management. In 1896 a company, organ-

ized as the Jasper Co-operative Stone company, was formed by four of the Rae brothers, Andrew, Robert, William and Alexander, and they leased the quarries for a term of years. William Rae served as secretary and treasurer of this company. The Jasper Stone Quarry company, in which the Raes are heavily interested, succeeded to the business in June, 1908. This company is capitalized for \$50,000 and conducts its operations on an extensive scale.

Individually William Rae has developed another branch of the stone cutting industry in Jasper, that of the manufacture of granite and marble monuments. He has conducted this line of work, in addition to his other interests, since 1904. For a period of five years following 1895, Mr. Rae was absent from Jasper, during which time he was general superintendent of the granite quarries at Ableman, Wisconsin. During the absence, however, he continued his connection with the Jasper industry.

The parents of our subject were George and Barbara (Farquhr) Rae, who came to this country from Scotland in 1891. The mother died the year after settlement in America, but George Rae is still living and resides with his son Andrew in Jasper. He has attained the age of seventy-seven years. The following ten children, all living, were born to George and Barbara Rae: James, of Newcastle on the Tyne, England; George, of Jasper; Maggie (Mrs. George Aitken), of Aberdeen, Scotland; Elizabeth (Mrs. Peter Gammie), of Miller Falls, Massachusetts; Andrew, of Jasper; Isabelle (Mrs. James Bain), of Sidney, Australia; Alexander, of Jasper; William, of this review; Robert, of Jasper; and Barbara (Mrs. William Crisp), of Dell Rapids, South Dakota.

At Jasper, on January 12, 1894, William Rae was united in marriage of Isabella Knutson, who was born in Norway and at the age of six months immigrated to America with her parents, Ole and Martha Knutson. The family resided for a number of years at Jefferson, Wisconsin, and in 1882 moved to Moody county, South Dakota. Ole Knutson homesteaded land in that county six miles northwest of the future town of Jasper, and on that land

he has since resided. Mrs. Knutson died in 1890. Mr. and Mrs. Rae are the parents of four sons: Chester, born July 1, 1896; Donald, born January 24, 1900; William H., born February 28, 1904; and James M., born January 7, 1907. Our subject holds membership in the order of Modern Woodmen of America.

WILLIAM H. GARLICH (1905) owns and farms the west half of section 35, Sweet township, and is a large breeder of cattle and hogs. He was born in Washington county, Illinois, January 4, 1878, the son of John R. and Marie (Niehauser) Garlich, who were also natives of Washington county. The former parent is deceased, but the mother still resides at Addieville, Illinois. Besides William H. of this sketch, there were five other children born to these parents. Their names are Anna, Katie, Minnie, John and Fred.

Our subject was educated in the district schools of Washington county and grew to manhood on his father's farm. For three and one-half years after attaining his majority he traveled and worked in the south and northwest, principally in the states of Oklahoma, Minnesota and Montana. On returning to Illinois, he set up as an independent farmer. In 1905 Mr. Garlich settled in Pipestone county. He rented the half section he now owns, and which became his property in 1910.

Anna Hagge became the wife of William H. Garlich at Pipestone on March 8, 1904. To them have been born two children, Olinda and Alfred. Mrs. Garlich was born in Germany but came to this country with her parents in early infancy.

EDWARD ZIMMERMAN (1898), a general merchant of the town of Hatfield, is a native of Floyd county, Iowa, where he was born the tenth of March, 1878. He is one in a family of five sons and two daughters born to Martin and Louise (Kemnetz) Zimmerman, of Hatfield. Both parents were born in Germany and were married in this country, to which they came early in life. From an original settlement in Wisconsin in the early seven-

ties, they moved to Floyd county, Iowa, where the father farmed for many years.

Edward was educated in the country schools of his native county. At the age of twenty, with his parents, he located in Pipestone county. He farmed with his father in Burke township for several years and then moved to Hatfield, which has since been his residence. For a year he engaged in carpenter work, then bought the general merchandise business of John Haurbrith, which he now conducts. He owns the building which houses his business.

Alvina Dittburner became the bride of Edward Zimmerman in June, 1900. Mrs. Zimmerman is a native of Germany, but came in early childhood to America with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Dittburner, early settlers of Pipestone county. To these parents the following four children have been born: Lettie, Harry, Eli and Leslie. Mr. Zimmerman has served on the board of school district No. 13. He holds membership in the order of Modern Woodmen.

DR. HERBERT D. JENCKES (1889), a practising physician and surgeon of Pipestone, has been a resident of the county for twenty-one years, or since July, 1889. His birth occurred at Dansville, New York, the first of August, 1850. He was three years of age when he moved west with his parents and located with them on a farm in Dane county, Wisconsin, a short distance north of Madison. The family resided on the farm ten years; then until he was a young man, Herbert lived in different towns of the state to which his father, a Methodist minister, was assigned.

After completing the course of the public schools our subject was a student at the state university, and in 1884 was graduated in medicine from the Chicago College of Physicians and Surgeons. Immediately after graduation Dr. Jenckes located in Lake Benton, Minnesota, for the practice of his profession. In 1885 he was called to Minneapolis to become the head physician in the St. Anthony hospital. On relinquishing that position he moved to Jasper, where he practised medicine for ten years, until establishing his present residence in Pipestone. Dr. Jenckes is the physician for the

government Indian school at Pipestone. He has an office in the Syndicate block. He is an ex-county coroner and for two years filled the office of judge of probate.

The doctor is one in a family of four children, the names of the others being Walter C., Judd C. and Mrs. Stella Calvin, who were born to Hiram D. and Anne M. (Larish) Jenckes. Hiram D. Jenckes, who was born at Sparta, New York, February 2, 1826, is still living at Marshfield, Wisconsin, and is in his eighty-fourth year. The mother died in 1893 at the age of sixty-nine. She was born in Easton, Pennsylvania, in 1824.

The Jenckes family trace their history back to the seventeenth century. The following concerning one of the family is gleaned from an old public document which discussed the mineral resources of New England: "1675—Rhode Island made iron soon after its settlement in 1636. A forge erected at Pawtucket by Joseph Jenckes, Jr., was destroyed by the Indians in the Wampanoag war." The great great grandfather of Dr. Jenckes, Dickinson Jenckes, a native of Rhode Island, served through the revolutionary war. The father of this patriot was Jeremiah Jenckes, born in 1714.

At Lake Benton, Lincoln county, on May 14, 1883, Dr. Jenckes was married to Anne Stewart Matthews, who was born at Mineral Point, Wisconsin, in January, 1859. A daughter, Stella, born to these parents died July 7, 1900, at the age of fifteen years. They have one son, Earl D., a student at Macalaster college. Dr. Jenckes is affiliated with both the Blue Lodge and the Chapter of the Masonic order, and with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

CHRIST MADSEN (1899), prominent Aetna township farmer and stock raiser is the owner of 280 acres of that precinct's fertile soil, part of which is located on section 16 and the remainder on section 9. A native of Svendborg, Denmark, Christ was born March 6, 1862, the son of Christ and Sophia (Viborg) Madsen. His father was a blacksmith by occupation and in that trade our subject became thoroughly versed in his youth. At the age of twenty he severed home ties and immigrated to

the United States. He made Ford county, Illinois, his destination, and after working out on farms for several years he rented land and for eleven years farmed there on his own account. From Illinois he moved to his Pipestone county farm in 1899.

Mr. Madsen is a member of the Aetna township board of supervisors and also of the board of directors of his school district. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator company of Ruthton. Fraternally he is a Modern Woodman, and with his family he belongs to the Danish Lutheran church.

On December 10, 1887, in Ford county, Illinois, occurred the marriage of Peter Madsen to Charlotte Nelson, a native of Sweden. She was born on the third of December, 1864, the daughter of Nels and Sarah (Swenson) Nelson. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Madsen: Marie, born September 4, 1888; Harry, born June 18, 1890; Christ, born March 4, 1893; Rinus, born January 5, 1897; and Carl, born October 3, 1901.

HENRY J. HANSEN (1893) is the leading general merchant in the town of Trosky. He is a native German and was born in Schleswig November 6, 1865, the son of Hans and Christina (Hering) Hansen, both deceased. Hans Hansen passed away at Pipestone in 1894 and his wife in the old country in 1873.

Henry received a common school training and learned the trade of printer in the land of his birth. He was seventeen years of age when he crossed the Atlantic and became a subject of Uncle Sam. For the first year he worked in a printing office in Dysart, Tama county, Iowa, and for the next six months was employed in Des Moines. He then returned to Tama county, where he resided until 1893, working at farm labor, on the section, and in a brick yard. During the year mentioned Mr. Hansen settled in Pipestone county. For four years he farmed and for a year clerked in a Pipestone store. For five years thereafter he was in the employ of Hawes & Houg at Luverne. He then engaged in the general mercantile business in the city of Pipestone, and in 1907 he established his present substantial

business in Trosky. He conducts a cream station in connection.

Mr. Hansen was married in Luverne March 31, 1906, to Mrs. Othilie Solberg, a native of Moss, Norway. She came to the United States in 1887. By her first marriage Mrs. Hansen has four children: Jennie, Lilly, Viola and Raymond. Our subject is a member of the village council, the German Lutheran church and the M. W. A. lodge.

BOJE PAULSEN (1896) is numbered among the prosperous and successful agriculturists of Troy township, in which precinct he owns 240 acres of choice land. Mr. Paulsen has never regretted selecting Pipestone county as a permanent home. His farm is thoroughly improved and bears substantial buildings, including a fine farm residence.

A native of Holstein, Germany, the subject of this biography was born December 4, 1860. His father, John Paulsen, who died April 15, 1891, at the age of seventy-seven years, in the same house in which he was born, was of the seventh generation of the Paulsen family to reside on and operate the same piece of land in the province of Holstein. Lena (Went) Paulsen, the mother of our subject, died March 23, 1863.

Until the year 1885 Boje Paulsen's destiny was shaped in the land of the kaiser. He attended the common schools and resided on the home farm until sixteen years of age. Then he commenced to work as a miller, an occupation he followed continuously until his departure for America. He landed in New York on May 22, 1885, and immediately thereafter located in the town of Keystone, Benton county, Iowa, where until 1890 he was connected with a flouring mill. In the year mentioned Mr. Paulsen commenced his career as a farmer in Sioux county, Iowa. Six years later he became identified with Pipestone county interests, buying the northwest quarter of section 2, Troy township, at the time. In 1902 he added to his original holding by the purchase of eighty acres on section 3. Our subject has for twelve years served as director of school district No. 9. He holds membership in the M. W. A. lodge at Cazenovia.

In the final month of his residence in Germany, on May 5, 1885, Mr. Paulsen was married to Augusta Moeller, who was born April 6, 1864. They have the following five children: Walter H., born December 6, 1886; Hattie, born May 5, 1889; John H., born March 14, 1893; William B., born March 21, 1895; and Gustav H., born September 23, 1897. Walter H. Paulsen is a graduate of the university of Minnesota.

WILLIAM A. NATZKE (1882), of Eden township, was born and has passed his entire life on the farm he now conducts, the northwest quarter of section 12, range 47. His parents, John and Emma (Lange) Natzke, natives of Illinois and Wisconsin, respectively, moved to Pipestone county in pioneer days and proved up on the farm described, which they bought as a relinquishment. William was born February 25, 1882, and was educated in the nearby district school. He assisted his father in the management of the home farm until 1904, since which time he has rented and farmed the place on his own account. Mr. Natzke believes firmly in raising only the highest grades of stock. He makes a specialty of Shorthorn cattle and Chester White hogs.

At Cedar Falls, Iowa, on September 28, 1905, Mr. Natzke was joined in marriage to Dora Feist, who was born in Blackhawk county, Iowa, January 20, 1880, the daughter of Charles and Minnie Feist. Charles Feist was born in Pennsylvania, his wife in Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Natzke are the parents of two children: Harold, born March 3, 1907, and Roland, born February 26, 1910. Our subject is a member of the Evangelical church. He has served for three years as the clerk of school district No. 53.

PATRICK JAMES HARTIGAN (1879), of Woodstock, is one of Pipestone county's pioneer settlers and one of the first to homestead in Burke township. In many of the stirring events of the formative period of the county's making, Mr. Hartigan was an active participant and shared with other

sturdy pioneers the hardships in the days of adversity. Not alone of Pipestone county, but of the state of Minnesota, is he an early resident, as he dates his settlement in the state from 1861. A native of county Limerick, Ireland, our subject was born on Christmas day, 1839, the son of John and Ellen (Kane) Hartigan. The former parent died in London, England, and the mother is buried in Wabasha county, Minnesota.

Patrick J. Hartigan was an eight year old lad when he moved with his parents to London, England, where he passed seven years of his youth. At an early age he learned the floor cloth printing trade, which he followed until embarking for the United States in 1854. He located in St. Lawrence county, New York, where he farmed until his westward move to Wabasha county, Minnesota, in 1861.

After eighteen years of farming in eastern Minnesota, Mr. Hartigan in 1879 commenced his successful career in Pipestone county. He took as a homestead claim the southeast quarter of section 34, Burke township, where he lived for nearly a quarter of a century, and in that time built up one of the finest improved pieces of farm property in the precinct. He set out one of the first groves in the township and is credited with being the builder of the first roads while serving as the township's first road overseer. For many years he was a member of the board of trustees of Burke township.

In 1902, after many years of faithful endeavor, Mr. Hartigan retired from active work on the farm and settled in Woodstock, which is still his home. He was engaged for three years in the saloon business, in a building he erected for the purpose. He then became the street commissioner of the village, serving in that capacity for a year. He is now engaged in the management of a billiard hall and soft drink emporium in the building formerly occupied by the saloon.

The year before leaving St. Lawrence county, New York, Patrick J. Hartigan was wedded to Julia Sullivan, also a native of the Emerald isle. This union has been blessed by the birth of seven children, five sons and two daughters, two of whom, John and Julia, are dead. The living children

are Michael, William, James, Patrick and Mary. The family are members of the Catholic church.

EDWARD L. READER (1886) is one of two brothers—the other being Leonard J. Reader—who have been highly esteemed citizens of Pipestone for a quarter of a century and from small beginnings have built up a business that is unrivalled in magnitude and completeness by any similar concern in southwestern Minnesota, outside of Mankato. Their line is plumbing, heating, windmills and pumps, a business they were literally born into and which they learned the mastery of in the shop and under the tutelage of their father. Leonard J. Reader settled in Pipestone in March, 1886, and formed a partnership with Martin Mulville. Edward L. Reader came in August of the same year, bought Mr. Mulville's interest in the newly established business, and since then, as Pipestone has grown and developed, so has the Reader Brothers' establishment. Their present commodious two story shop and sales rooms was erected in 1896. All the big plumbing contracts in the city, including the work at the court house and the government Indian school, have been entrusted to this enterprising and capable firm.

At Delevan, Walworth county, Wisconsin, on the natal day of our nation, July 4, 1865, occurred the birth of Edward L. Reader. In that town he was educated and learned the ins and outs of the plumber's trade from his father. In the first year of his manhood he moved to Pipestone and has since been engaged in a prosperous career. The parents of our subject, John J. and Charlotte (Williams) Reader, have resided in Walworth county, Wisconsin, since 1837 and are still hale and hearty at the ages of eighty-three and eighty-one years, respectively. The father is a native of Oneida county, New York, while the mother was born in Pennsylvania. Six children were born to this venerable couple, all of whom are living and married. They are Ida M. (Mrs. James Davidson), of Delevan; Leonard J. and Edward L., of Pipestone; Amos H., of Delevan; John B., of Delevan; and

Gertrude L. (Mrs. Clarence Ingalls), of Chicago.

Edward L. Reader was married in Pipestone on December 3, 1891, to Nellie L. Kepner, a native of Rochester, Minnesota, where she was born January 2, 1866. Two daughters have been born to this union: Marian G., born September 8, 1895, and Madeline J., born April 18, 1898.

Leonard J. Reader is the elder of the two brothers and was born in Delevan March 17, 1855. In that town he was reared and married. His marriage to Agnes L. Rogers, a native of New York, occurred February 1, 1882. The date of her birth is April 10, 1853. One son, Robert C., who is in the employ of his father's firm, was born to these parents November 9, 1882.

Having fallen a victim to rheumatism, Mr. Reader generally spends the winter months in California as a relief from the malady. He is a member of the Odd Fellows lodge.

ABRAHAM H. BELLAND (1899), who owns and farms the southwest quarter of section 2, Eden township, has resided in Pipestone county since he was eighteen years of age. His parents, Halvor and Bertha (Donhowe) Belland, natives of Norway, on coming to America settled in Story county, Iowa, where the subject of this review was born on March 19, 1881.

Abraham attended the district schools of his native precinct. In 1899 the Belland family became residents of Pipestone county, the father having bought the southwest quarter of section 2, Eden. Our subject assisted in the management of the home farm until 1905, in which year he moved to the village of Ihlen, where he had bought an interest in the Ihlen Mercantile company. He was connected with that concern for eighteen months; then for a year and a half he was employed by the Dahlmeier Bros. Lumber company. He bought the home farm in 1907, upon which he has resided since the spring of 1910. Mr. Belland is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

At Ihlen, on November 25, 1908, Abraham H. Belland was joined in the bonds of matrimony to Margaret Larson, a na-

tive of Pipestone county. She was born June 3, 1888, the daughter of Erick R. and Bertha (Egeland) Larson, of Eden. To these parents one child, Opal, was born, March 3, 1910.

H. JACOB BOTH (1898), farmer of Altona township, has been for thirteen years a resident of the county. His parents, Jacob and Margretta Both, natives of Germany, resided for many years in the Iowa counties of Tama and O'Brien, later establishing the family home in Pipestone county, where both are now buried. Jacob Both died in October, 1909, having survived his wife four years. Mrs. Both's death occurred in November, 1905.

In Tama county, Iowa, on February 3, 1878, the subject of this biography commenced his earthly career. Jacob was seven years of age when the family moved to O'Brien county, where his schooling was acquired. Jacob Both, senior, bought the northeast quarter of section 17, Altona, in 1897, and a year later he departed from Iowa and made settlement on the Pipestone county land. On coming of age our subject commenced working out at farm labor, and in 1904 he rented the home farm of his father and has since conducted it. Mr. Both owns stock in the Farmers Elevator company of Ward, South Dakota.

At Pipestone, on November 30, 1904, H. Jacob Both was joined in marriage to Emma Tank, the daughter of John and Dora Tank, of Pipestone. Mrs. Both was born March 30, 1884.

OSCAR A. GREEN (1885), who is the able editor and manager of the Edgerton Enterprise, has been a resident of that village for all except the first four years of his life. His birth occurred at Clinton, Iowa, March 13, 1881. His parents are Frank and Thea (Moe) Green, natives of Sweden and Norway, respectively. They were married in Clinton, Iowa, where they lived until 1885, since which time they have been respected residents of Edgerton. Mr. Green is now in his sixtieth year, and his wife is two years younger.

They have a second son, Ernest W., of Willow Lake, South Dakota.

Oscar was educated in the schools of Edgerton and early commenced acquiring the fundamentals of the art preservative in the office of the Enterprise. He was employed for a time at the printer's trade in Pipestone; then in 1900, in company with L. W. Lockwood, he bought the Enterprise, the partnership containing four years. At the time of taking possession of the paper, Messrs. Green and Lockwood enjoyed the distinction of being the youngest editors in the state, the former being nineteen and the latter seventeen years of age. Mr. Lockwood disposed of his interest in the publication to Ed. Yocom, and the firm of Green & Yocom existed for three years. The paper was then sold to William Lockwood, but its editorial control and management is still retained by our subject.

In Edgerton, on February 18, 1903, Mr. Green was married to Lois Woodworth, who was born in Lakefield, Minnesota, July 17, 1882. The following four children have blessed this union: Lyman A., born May 13, 1904; Zelma L., born April 3, 1905; Roy O., born August 3, 1907; and Willard W., born October 5, 1909. Mr. Green is a member of the Congregational church and of the Knights of Pythias lodge.

The Edgerton Enterprise was founded in 1883 by A. R. Burkdoll, who conducted it three years as a seven column folio and then sold to J. C. Marshall. Under his regime of nine years the paper was an influential democratic organ and its editor a prominent factor in the local life of that party. He relinquished the paper upon being elected to the office of county judge of probate. He later served as county auditor. The next editor was E. C. Brake, who sold after a year and a half to William Lockwood. From that time the Enterprise has been an expounder of the principles and doctrines of republicanism.

Mr. Lockwood employed as manager of the paper A. P. McDowell, of Minneapolis, and later William McCune, of Worthington. Three partnership firms, those of Ham & Akers, Green & Lockwood, and Green & Yocom, presided over the des-

tinies of the publication in direct succession; then the paper reverted to its present owner, William Lockwood, with O. A. Green in the editorial chair.

The first change from the original size of the sheet was inaugurated by Ham & Akers, who made it a five column quarto. Green & Lockwood went one better and made it a five column, all home print. A year later it was changed to its present acceptable style, six columns, all home print.

FRANK RAYMOND (1887), of Pipestone, chief engineer of the municipal waterworks plant, is a Pipestone county resident of twenty-four years' standing. The son of John and Elvira (Miller) Raymond, natives of Pennsylvania and New York, respectively, he was born in Green county, Wisconsin, October 10, 1858. His father, John Raymond, a veteran of the civil war and a machinist by trade, died in 1894 and was sixty-two years of age at the time of his decease. The mother is still living and resides at Fort Bragg, California. Besides our subject three other sons and one daughter were born to these parents, namely: Ellsworth and Samuel, of San Francisco; Wilbur, a member of the Tacoma, Washington, police force; and Bessie Barkball, of Covello, California.

John Raymond returned from his long service as a member of company I, Twenty-second Wisconsin cavalry, broken in health. He was compelled to forsake the pursuit of his trade, and in order to improve his condition the Raymond family moved from their old Wisconsin home and settled on a farm in Benton county, Iowa. Frank passed his youth on the home farm. Following his father's inclinations, he mastered the blacksmith's and machinist's trades, which he followed for a number of years in Iowa and Illinois prior to settling in Pipestone in 1887.

Mr. Raymond erected the brick building which now houses the Stude garage and for twelve years successfully conducted a leading blacksmith and machine shop in Pipestone. He retired from business to accept his present position with the city. Besides being qualified as an expert mechanic, our subject is possessed of marked

inventive ability. He supervised the earlier work of the installation of Pipestone's first water system in 1888; he constructed the city's first steam pump and has installed each succeeding one; also he is credited with an important share in the building of the first electric lighting plant and operated the same for a time.

At Belle Plaine, Iowa, on August 10, 1884, Frank Raymond was joined in marriage to Lizzie Pollock, a native of Illinois. To this union the following named eight children have been born: Nita, Gladys, Burt, Mabel, Samuel, Fay and Dorothy. Mr. Raymond is affiliated with the lodges of the Modern Brotherhood, Modern Woodmen, Odd Fellows and Sons of Veterans.

WILLIAM J. BANISTER (1899), a farmer of Osborne township, was born in Lafayette county, Wisconsin, the second day of February, 1863. He is the son of Preston Banister, a native of the Hoosier state, and Elzina (Knott) Banister, a Canadian by birth.

The Banister family moved from Wisconsin to Blackhawk county, Iowa, when William was in his second year. He was reared on his father's farm in that county and educated in the near by district schools. He resided on, and assisted in the management of, the home farm until 1884, the year he attained the age of twenty-two years. He then rented land and commenced farming for himself, first in Blackhawk and then in Lyon county, Iowa. On moving from Iowa, Mr. Banister became a resident of Minnesota. He farmed in Nobles and Murray counties prior to 1899, when he settled in Pipestone county. He has rented and farmed the southwest quarter of section 6, Osborne township, since 1904. Our subject raises considerable stock. He is the overseer of road district No. 2. He and his sons, George and Harry, are members of the M. W. A. lodge.

On March 25, 1884, in Blackhawk county, Iowa, William J. Banister was joined in the bonds of matrimony to Martha Kennedy, a native of Indiana. She was born August 30, 1864, and is the daughter of Andrew and Sarah (Medlin) Kennedy. Ten children have been born to these parents

as follows: George P., born September 30, 1885; Ira A., born May 23, 1887, died December 6, 1906; Della S., born January 24, 1889; Harry H., born May 10, 1890; Elsie M., born May 19, 1892; William J., born September 19, 1895; Charles E., born March 31, 1897; Roy L., born May 18, 1903; Marie V., born September 6, 1905; Lum R., born November 7, 1910. Two of the children are married. Della S. Banister was married to C. S. Vogt March 17, 1909, and resides in Pipestone county. George P. Banister was married to Sarah Madden July 20, 1910, and now resides in Emmett county, Iowa.

OTTO F. LANGE (1896), Sweet township farmer, is the oldest living son in a family of eight children who were born to Peter and Anna (Otten) Lange. Both parents were born in Germany and came to this country a short time before their marriage, an event which was solemnized in the city of Green Bay, Wisconsin. Three of the children, Alvina, Theodore and Dora, have died. The names of the surviving children are Otto, Edward, John, Ernst and Lydia.

Peter Lange was a minister of the German Lutheran church, and it was while he was stationed as pastor at Peshtigo, Wisconsin, on November 13, 1873, that Otto F. Lange of this sketch was born. He was yet an infant when the family moved to Lowell, in the same state, and from there a move was made to LaCrosse county. Rev. Lange was stationed there for about nine years. In 1886 he moved with his family to Pipestone county, having bought the southwest quarter of section 11, Sweet township, from the railroad company. He resided on his land for eleven months and then returned to Wisconsin to accept the pastorate of the church at Weyauwega, where he died in 1900.

At that place Otto attended high school and was later a student at Northwestern university, at Watertown. He left school and learned the butcher's trade, which he followed for two years. In 1896 Mr. Lange settled permanently on the Sweet township farm of his father, which is now

owned by the estate. The mother and part of the family have lived on the farm since the death of Rev. Lange.

LEWIS V. DIETMEIER (1899), who engages extensively in farming and stock raising in Elmer township, is a native of Stephenson county, Illinois. He was born September 25, 1878, the son of Richard and Margaretta (Jonas) Dietmeier. The former parent was born in Baden, Germany, and the mother in New York state.

Lewis attended the country schools of his native county and resided on the home farm until attaining his majority. In 1899 he came to Pipestone county and bought the west half of section 29, Elmer, upon which he has since maintained a residence. His farm is substantially improved. In the raising of stock—especially Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs—Mr. Dietmeier has been unusually successful. He served as the treasurer of Elmer township two years and for six years guarded the funds of school district No. 17. Our subject holds membership in the I. O. O. F. and M. W. A. lodges.

On November 6, 1898, in Green county, Wisconsin, Lewis V. Dietmeier was united in marriage to Mildred Boeck, who was born in Germany January 30, 1879, the daughter of Frank and Louisa (Tafes) Boeck. To these parents have been born six children, as follows: Victor C., born August 20, 1899; Twit L., born February 26, 1901; Roland E., born July 9, 1903; Ellery N., born August 19, 1906; Orval L., born January 17, 1908; and Gertrude E., born June 7, 1910.

JENS M. BECK (1901), a farmer of Aetna township, is the owner of the northwest quarter of section 21. All the land is thoroughly improved, solely through Mr. Beck's efforts. A native of Denmark, Jens was born August 19, 1865, the son of Anders and Jacobie (Rasmussen) Beck, small farmers of that country. He attended the Danish common schools until sixteen years of age, when he crossed the Atlantic to commence the battle of life for himself in a strange country but in a land of opportunity. His brother, Louis, accom-

panied him on the journey, and the two boys located at Kankakee, Illinois, near which place they secured employment on a farm. Mr. Beck left Illinois in 1901 to become a Pipestone county farmer. He bought his land at that time and has since been successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising.

Our subject was married at Kankakee, Illinois, December 6, 1887, to Hannah Sorenson, also a native Dane. She was born August 5, 1886, the daughter of Chris and Magdaline Sorenson. Mr. and Mrs. Beck are the parents of four children: Chris A., Leanous, Charles and Edward. The family belong to the Danish Lutheran church of Ruthton. Mr. Beck has efficiently served as assessor of Aetna township for eight years. He is a member of the M. W. A. lodge

SAMUEL L. GILLILAND (1896) is one of the enterprising and substantial agriculturists of Troy township. He settled in Pipestone county fifteen years ago and is now the owner of two of the most thoroughly improved quarter sections of land in his home precinct, the northwest quarter of section 34 and the southwest quarter of section 30. He engages extensively in high grade stock raising, especially of cattle and sheep.

A native of Illinois, Samuel was born in McHenry county October 23, 1860, a son of James and Nancy (Davis) Gilliland, the former an Irishman by birth and the latter a native of New York. After completing the course of the district school, our subject was for two years a student in the Marengo high school; then he turned his attention toward agricultural pursuits, a calling in which he has since continued. He assisted with the management of the home farm until after his twenty-fifth birthday; then for eleven years he rented and farmed land in McHenry and Kane counties, Illinois. He departed from that state in 1896 to establish his residence in Pipestone county. Mr. Gilliland is the president and a director of the Farmers Elevator company of Cazenovia, and he is also a stockholder in similar institutions at Pipestone and Air-lie. He has served twelve years as treas-

urer of school district No. 10 and for nine years has guarded the treasury of the township. In a fraternal way he is affiliated with the M. W. A. and R. N. A. lodges.

On December 17, 1890, at Harmony, Illinois, Samuel L. Gilliland was joined in wedlock to Mary J. Grimes, who was born in Illinois February 28, 1869, the daughter of Sol. K. and Mary Grimes. To Mr. and Mrs. Gilliland were born these five children: Millard, born February 9, 1893; Lester, born February 26, 1898; Clifford, born December 2, 1899; Mabel, born September 14, 1907; and Loran, born June 9, 1907, died August 14, 1907.

WILLIAM T. NICHOLSON (1905) is a young and progressive business man of Ruthton. His education has been mainly received in the school of hard knocks, in which he was enrolled at the age of thirteen. He has succeeded through push and ambition. A native of Murray county, Minnesota, he was born in the village of Slayton May 2, 1885. He left school at an early age and was employed as clerk in several Slayton general stores until the age of twenty, when he located in Ruth-ton. He clerked in a general store until 1908, when, in company with C. A. Scherer, he bought the Nelson & Daly drug store. Mr. Nicholson is the active manager of the business. The firm carries a full line of drugs, stationery, well paper, jewelry, etc.

William is the son of James and Mary Nicholson, the former an Englishman by birth and the latter a native of Australia. They were married in England and came to the United States about 1880. They homesteaded in Murray county, which was their home until twelve years ago, when they moved to a farm in Grange township, a few miles north of Pipestone. James and Mary Nicholson are the parents of seven children, who besides William T. of this review are Fannie, Florence, James, Amy, Mary and Arthur.

THOMAS CAMPBELL (1892) owns and farms two choice quarter sections of Rock township land, the southwest quarter of

section 10 and the southeast quarter of section 9. He is a large breeder of high grade stock.

A native Scot, our subject first saw the light of day in the county of Perth on the fourth of January, 1863. He is the son of Thomas and Jeanette (Morrison) Campbell. Thomas attended the common schools in Scotland and resided on the farm of his father until attaining the age of twenty-four years. Then he came to America and became identified with its prosperity. He was located for a number of years in Tama county, Iowa, first working out at farm labor, then renting land to farm for himself. In 1892 Mr. Campbell departed from Iowa and established his residence in Pipestone county. He owns stock in the Farmers Elevator company of Holland. He is treasurer of school district No. 7, an office he has held for five years, and is a trustee of the Holland Presbyterian church.

Tama county, Iowa, is the place where occurred the marriage of Thomas Campbell to Jemima Brown on July 19, 1890. Mrs. Campbell is also a native of Scotland and was born March 16, 1865, the daughter of Robert and Jeanette (Wilson) Brown. The following four children have been born to this union: Maggie, born September 26, 1891; Jeanette, born August 16, 1896; Thomas, born April 11, 1902; and Ella M., born February 9, 1904.

JACOB G. JOHANNSEN (1895) is the owner of a well improved farm of 240 acres on section 22, Sweet township, upon which he has lived since 1902. Most of the improvements have been made on the place since it came into the possession of Mr. Johannsen.

The parents of our subject, Claus and Fredericka (Loucks) Johannsen, are still living and reside in Pipestone. Jacob was born in Pottawattamie county, Iowa, on the fourth of September, 1874. He was reared on a farm and educated in the district schools of his native county, which was his home until he was twenty-one years of age. Then, in 1895, he came to Pipestone county to farm land owned by his father, on section 31, Sweet. He re-

sided there until buying the farm he now conducts. Mr. Johannsen raises stock quite extensively. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator company of Pipestone.

In Sweet township, on November 9, 1897, occurred the marriage of Jacob G. Johannsen to Maggie Tanck, who came to the United States when seven years old. She was born on the Island of Fehmen, a part of the German empire, May 30, 1875. Six sons have been born to this union, as follows: Arthur, born August 3, 1898; John, born November 30, 1901; Albert, born April 28, 1903; Louis, born November 20, 1907; and the baby, born August 24, 1910. Mr. Johannsen and family are members of the German Lutheran church of Pipestone.

THADDEUS E. NASH (1880), cashier of the Pipestone State Bank, has been a resident of the county for all except the first four years of his life. He is the son of Register of Deeds G. W. Nash and Emma (Fish) Nash, both natives of New York state. Besides our subject two daughters, Adah and Pearl, a public school teacher at Preston, Minnesota, have been born to these parents.

Thaddeus was born in Jones county, Iowa, on August 29, 1876. From Iowa the family moved to Blue Earth, Minnesota, and in 1880 settlement was made in Pipestone county, at Woodstock, where for many years G. W. Nash was agent for the Omaha railroad. Our subject was educated in the public school of Woodstock. At an early age he assisted his father with the work in the railway station, and at the age of fifteen he was assigned as station agent to Magnolia, Rock county. After a year, in 1892, he succeeded his father at Woodstock, continuing in charge of that station four years. Mr. Nash was then for nine months employed as bookkeeper by the State Bank, now the First National Bank of Jasper. He then returned to the railroad service as station agent at Pipestone and was so employed until 1901, when he became assistant cashier of the Pipestone State Bank. He has been with that institution since that time, except a few months in 1905 and 1906. He

was elected cashier in July, 1906, and has since filled that office.

In Mason City, Iowa, on October 23, 1901, our subject was joined in marriage to Elizabeth Rehm. Mr. and Mrs. Nash are the parents of three daughters. In a fraternal way Mr. Nash is affiliated with the Masonic, Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen lodges.

WILLIAM RUDEBUSCH (1897), farmer and large stock raiser of Altona township, has been a subject of Uncle Sam since he was twenty-three years of age. He was born in Oldenberg, Germany, May 29, 1866, the son of Albert and Annie (Krye) Rudebusch. William was educated in the German public schools. On immigrating to America, he went to Dodge county, Nebraska, where he followed agricultural pursuits until 1897, the year of his settlement in Pipestone county. He has since owned and lived on the northwest quarter of section 2, Altona. Mr. Rudebusch owns stock in the Verdi creamery and in the local telephone company. With his family he belongs to the German Lutheran church.

On September 27, 1898, in Lincoln county, our subject was united in marriage to Mary Hanson, a native of Clinton county, Iowa. She was born March 26, 1875, the daughter of August and Katherine Hanson. To Mr. and Mrs. Rudebusch have been born the following six children: Dorthia, born September 28, 1899; Charlotte, born September 3, 1901; Albert, born January 8, 1903; Louisa, born May 3, 1904; Helena, born May 2, 1906; and Carl, born August 2, 1909.

WILLIAM BREIHOLZ (1901) is one of the leading and most influential citizens of the village of Holland, where he is engaged in the general mercantile and furniture business. He owns and occupies two store buildings on Main street, exclusively for the accommodation of his flourishing line of trade. For five years he ably served on the village council and at present is president of the local board of education. No movement is inaugurated for the betterment of Holland in which Mr. Breiholz is not an active participant.

William is the oldest in a family of four children born to Henry and Maggie Breiholz. John, Edward and Annie are the other members of the family. Both parents were born in Germany, came to the United States at an early age, and were married in Davenport, Iowa. That city was the family home until 1872, when a removal to Belle Plaine, and later to Remsen, Iowa, was made. The elder Mr. Breiholz and wife settled in Holland in 1902, which is still the home of the latter, who is now in her sixty-seventh year. Mr. Breiholz passed away on July 23, 1909, at the age of seventy-two years.

William Breiholz was born in Davenport, Iowa, on January 26, 1869, and two and one-half years later accompanied his parents in their removal to Belle Plaine. He commenced his education in the public schools of that town and later completed the course offered by the Remsen, Iowa, high school. For a time following his high school days, William was a student at Northwestern college, of LeMars. He clerked in several stores in Remsen until locating in Holland in 1901. Since that year he has conducted his present line of business, having purchased the store of A. W. Dressel & Co. Mr. Breiholz carries a complete and up-to-date line of seasonable merchandise, dry goods, groceries, shoes, furnishings, etc., and in connection conducts his furniture business.

The marriage of our subject occurred at Remsen, Iowa, on the second of March, 1892, when he wedded Minnie Sievers, a native of Luzerne, Benton county, Iowa. Five children, Arthur, Walter, Esther, Elmer and Ethel, have been born to these parents. Mr. Breiholz is affiliated with the K. P. lodge of Jasper and is also a member of the Workmen order.

DAVID E. EVANS (1890), Osborne township farmer, was born in Iowa county, Wisconsin, May 25, 1857. His parents, Edward and Sarah (Davis) Evans, came to the United States from Wales at an early date and settled near Dodgeville, Wisconsin. Edward Evans died when our subject was four years of age, and he was fourteen when he was left entirely an orphan by the death of his mother.

David was educated in the district schools and grew up on the old family farm. After the death of his mother the place was rented out to some neighbors, but David and his sister remained thereon, the latter keeping house for the occupants. He worked out on different farms much of the time, and after marrying, at the age of twenty-six, he rented the farm of his uncle, which he worked four years. Following three years employment on the railroad, Mr. Evans, in July, 1890, located in Pipestone county. He worked at farm labor for a year, and after that for three years was employed on the railroad section at Edgerton. He returned to agricultural pursuits and rented the northwest quarter of section 20, which he farmed until moving to his present location, the southwest quarter of section 17, in 1904. Mr. Evans was a road overseer two years. He is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen lodge.

At Barneveld, Wisconsin, on January 22, 1884, our subject was married to Georgiana Jones, of Welsh birth. She was born October 9, 1857, the daughter of John and Jane (Thomas) Jones. The following five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Evans: Sarah Jane, born December 31, 1884; Edward John, born March 7, 1886; William David, born September 28, 1887; Ira Milton, born October 24, 1890; and Bernice Edith, born June 22, 1894.

JAMES A. VINING (1884) carries the mail for Uncle Sam out of Jasper, over route one. His birth occurred December 6, 1865, in McLean county, Illinois. He is the son of Reuben and Mariah L. (Sackett) Vining, who are both natives of Delaware county, Ohio. In the early sixties they moved to McLean county, Illinois, being among the pioneers of that section. Their next home was in Adair county, Iowa. There they bought land and lived until 1884, when they identified themselves with the interests of Rock county, Minnesota. A home was established in Rose Dell township, and there Reuben Vining died on September 4, 1900, aged fifty-nine years. The mother lives in Jasper. They were the parents of seven children, five boys and two girls. They are James A.,

Almond, Lydia (Mrs. Hart Onan), Thomas, Edmond, Myrtle (Mrs. Dan Drawz) and Rufus. All the children with the exception of James, Mrs. Onan and Mrs. Drawz reside in Dakota.

James A., with whom this biography is concerned, at the age of five years moved with his family to Adair county, Iowa. There he secured his education and resided until 1884, when the family came to Rock county. For four or five years he lived on the home farm in Rose Dell township, and then for several years rented a place and engaged in farming for himself. Leaving the farm, he moved to Luverne and operated a restaurant until 1900. Selling out, he lived for a year in various parts of Missouri and Iowa. Returning to Minnesota in 1901, he settled in Jasper and for four years was employed by Dr. Bong. In 1905 he received the appointment to his present position.

Captolia Jones, a native of Kentucky, and in earlier years a resident of Missouri and Iowa, became the wife of Mr. Vining on March 11, 1895, the marriage taking place at Greenfield, Iowa. Mrs. Vining died July 13, 1908, at the age of forty-two years. There were no children. Mr. Vining is associated with the Knights of Pythias lodge.

THOMAS EINUNG (1889), a farmer of Eden township, was born in West Fjord Dahlen, Norway, May 16, 1867. His parents, Hans and Aaget (Bhöle) Einung, were small farmers in that northern country. Thomas lived on the farm of his birth until immigrating to the United States in 1889, at the age of twenty-two years. He made Jasper his destination, and for a number of years was employed at farm labor near that town. He then bought land in Rose Dell township, Rock county, which he farmed for three years; then he bought and located on his Pipestone county farm, the southwest quarter of section 22, Eden.

In Jasper, on July 9, 1905, our subject was married to Ida Bondal, also a native of Norway. She was born May 4, 1882, the daughter of Kittel and Margretta Bondal, who still reside in the old country. Two children have been born to this

union: Alma, on May 19, 1906, and Clara, on July 11, 1909. Mr. and Mrs. Einung are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

ADOLPH ABRAHAM (1891) has for a score of years been engaged in farming and stock raising in Burke township. He is the owner of a quarter section of thoroughly improved farm land on section 9, of that precinct, and he breeds high grade stock on a large scale.

The subject of this review is the son of Carl and Frederica (Schultz) Abraham and was born in Brandenburg, Germany, on February 21, 1857. He received a common school education in his native land and continued to make his home in Germany until his twenty-fourth year. Then, in 1881, he took passage for the new world and went direct to Henry county, Illinois, where he was destined to reside a decade. For five years Adolph was employed at farm labor, and for the same length of time he farmed rented land on his own account in Illinois. He moved to Pipestone county in 1891 and at once settled on the farm he still occupies. Mr. Abraham has given fifteen years of service as a director of school district No. 32. He owns stock in the Farmers Elevator company of Woodstock, and with his family belongs to the German Lutheran church.

December 21, 1884, is the date, and Kewanee, Illinois, the place of the marriage of Mr. Abraham to Mary L. Furst, who was born in Germany September 1, 1854, the daughter of Carl and Augusta (Beyer) Furst. Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Abraham are the parents of the following five children: Carl, born November 7, 1887; Martha, born December 30, 1889; Augusta, born April 27, 1891; Mary, born February 11, 1894; and Anna, born March 1, 1896.

HORACE E. RIFFEL (1892), a well known farmer and stock raiser of Gray township, first saw the light of day in Des Moines county, Iowa, September 24, 1875. He attended the district schools of that county and there lived until seventeen years of age. In 1892 he accompanied his parents, William and Harriet (Parvis) Riffel, in

their removal to Pipestone county. His father bought a 240 acre farm on sections 13 and 14, Gray, which he later sold to become the owner of the south half of section 8, the farm which Horace now conducts. Mr. Riffel breeds Polled Angus cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs. He is a member of the Catholic church and the Modern Woodmen lodge.

Horace E. Riffel was married at Pipestone October 20, 1909, to Mary Manley, who was born in Erin county, Wisconsin, the daughter of Michael and Ellen (Minnehan) Manley. One child, Leslie Edwin, was born to these parents, on August 2, 1910.

JOHN W. COOK (1892) conducts an exclusive drug and prescription business in Pipestone, of which he has been a resident since 1892. On coming to the city at that time he entered the employ of T. F. Robinson, the druggist, who was located in the building now occupied by Nason's pool hall. Five months later Mr. Cook opened a drug store of his own and in 1902 he purchased the Dr. Taylor stock of drugs and has since conducted the combined stores in his present location.

Mr. Cook was born in London, England, on December 13, 1864. In that city were also born both of his parents, Joseph and Frances (Carter) Cook. They came to the United States and Minnesota in 1882 and located in Slayton, Murray county, which was their home until both were called by death. They left seven children, of whom John, the subject of this sketch, is the oldest. The names of the others are Lizzie, Cecelia, Alice, H. A., Josephine and Alfred.

At the age of sixteen John severed home ties and struck out to see the world. He made his own way to South Africa, and after a short sojourn there went to Sydney, Australia, where he secured employment as a pharmacist's apprentice, and there he learned the drug business. He was the manager of a store during the last four years of his residence there. He came to the United States in the fall of 1891 and at once made settlement in Pipestone. Mr. Cook is the possessor of a token, an ample proof of his efficiency as a pharmacist. It is a gold medal, suitably inscribed,

which was presented to him by the president of the board of pharmacy of New South Wales at the annual board meeting in August, 1888. This medal was granted to Mr. Cook as a mark of recognition for his success in attaining the highest standing of 224 candidates for licenses as pharmacists at the final examinations.

From April, 1894, until 1909 Mr. Cook was the Pipestone agent for the United States Express company, and since then has served in a similar capacity for the Wells Fargo Express company. For the past four years he has been a member of the board of education and is its present treasurer. He served as president of the board during the year commencing in 1908. Our subject has filled chairs in both the Blue Lodge and Chapter branches of the Masoric order and in the Odd Fellows and Encampment. He has been chancellor commander of the local lodge of the Knights of Pythias.

At Pipestone, on August 12, 1896, John W. Cook was united in marriage to Emma D. Petersmeyer, a former principal of the Pipestone high school. She is a native of Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Cook have two sons: W. Kyrwood, born June 28, 1900, and Kenneth Carter, born October 13, 1909. An only daughter, Ayleen, who was born March 6, 1902, died February 16, 1904.

GRANT E. RIPLEY (1899), a farmer of Eden township, is a native of New York, where he was born November 18, 1869. When a year old he moved from the Empire state with his parents and located with them in Lyon county, Iowa. In that county he lived until attaining the age of thirty years. He commenced at the age of eighteen to work out, and after his marriage he rented land and commenced farming on his own account. On coming to Pipestone county in 1899 he resided for six years in Elmer township, then moved to the place he now rents and farms, the northeast quarter of section 26, Eden. The parents of our subject, Eugene and Julia (Harrington) Ripley, are residents of George, Iowa and are sixty-three and sixty-one years of age, respectively.

On July fourth, 1890, at George, Iowa, occurred the marriage of Grant E. Ripley

to Etta McNelly, the daughter of John McNelly, of Houston county. Mrs. Ripley was left motherless when a babe. Ten children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Ripley, all but one of whom are living. Their names are: Rose, born August 7, 1891; Earl, born March 30, 1893; Alida, born October 27, 1894; Wallace, born December 28, 1896; Alma, born October 23, 1898; Ernest, born January 26, 1901, died May 26, 1901; Gladys, born May 8, 1902; Edgar, born August 9, 1904; Harold, born August 20, 1906; and Kenneth, born December 17, 1909. Mr. Ripley holds membership in the lodge of the Modern Woodmen of America.

CLARENCE E. GRIFFIN (1884) is a substantial Pipestone county farmer whose land lies within the incorporation of the village of Trosky. His parents were J. A. and Isabelle B. (Gray) Griffin, natives of New Hampshire and Scotland, respectively. The mother died July 5, 1908, at the age of sixty-five years. There were eleven children in the Griffin family, of whom four sons and three daughters are still living. The names of the living children are Clarence E., Arthur, Harry, John, Hattie (Mrs. L. G. Jones), Eva (Mrs. P. O. Wahlford) and Nellie (Mrs. J. A. Kieffer).

Clarence was born on a farm in Delaware county, Iowa, June 21, 1863. He attended the public schools of his home county and assisted with the farm work until 1884, when he accompanied his parents in their removal to Pipestone county. He located with them on the northwest quarter of section 21, Elmer township, which has ever since been his home. He bought the place from L. P. Kenyon in 1902. In addition to his own land, he rents and farms a half of section 21 and a quarter on section 28. He is an extensive breeder of fancy cattle and hogs. He is a member of the Odd Fellows lodge and has occupied all the chairs in that order. Mr. Griffin is unmarried.

PETER MYHRE (1882), of Aetna township, farms the land on which occurred his birth. He is the son of Andrew and Annie Myhre, who came from their native land of Norway to the United States in

1878. They selected Pipestone county as the field of their endeavors, Andrew Myhre pre-empting the southwest quarter of section 20, Aetna, on which has since been the family home.

Peter Myhre, the fifth in a family of two sons and four daughters, was born August 28, 1882. He was educated in the district schools of Aetna township and assisted his father on the home farm until 1906, when he rented the place and has since successfully conducted it.

ALTON E. BEAN (1882) is one of the younger business men of Woodstock, of which he has been a residence since 1900. He is a native Minnesotan and was born in Steele county the eleventh of December, 1875, the son of Arb. and Mary (Dietz) Bean, now residents of Milbank, South Dakota.

The family moved to Flandreau, South Dakota, when that place was a frontier Indian trading post. The journey from Steele county was made overland in an ox-cart. Alton was but an infant at the time of removal to South Dakota. His father established a flour and grist mill at Flandreau, hauling the lumber from Luverne by ox-team. The family located in Pipestone, then a small village, in 1882, and there Alton secured an education in the graded schools. He spent his earlier vacations as a herd boy in the adjoining country. On leaving school he took up his residence with his grandfather, David Dietz, in Burke township. For the first six years after locating in Woodstock, Mr. Bean clerked in the general store of C. J. Meys and then established his present business, which has thrived from the start. He carries in stock a full line of dry goods, groceries, shoes, hats, caps, etc.

Our subject was married in Pipestone on October 27, 1903, to Nellie Langmack, who was born in Davenport, Iowa, in 1877.

W. W. FLETCHER (1887), a leading grain, coal and live stock merchant of Pipestone, has since 1878 been in close touch with Pipestone county progress. At the age of fourteen years he became a resident of Moody county, South Dakota, where his

father homesteaded land just over the line from Pipestone county. On that farm our subject dwelt until becoming a resident of Pipestone.

LaCrosse, Wisconsin, is the birthplace of our subject, his nativity having occurred February 22, 1864. He is the son of Thomas Fletcher, an Englishman by birth, who was married after coming to the United States to Ann Webster, also a native of England. They resided in Wisconsin until 1878, when settlement was made in Moody county, South Dakota, where his father died. His mother died in LaCrosse, Wisconsin, in 1870.

Mr. Fletcher, whom we are considering, was twenty-two years of age when he departed from the Moody county homestead and commenced his successful career in Pipestone. He at once secured employment with Ezra Rice, the pioneer grain merchant of Pipestone, and, following the disposal of that gentleman's business interests to E. A. Brown, our subject continued as the manager of the Pipestone elevator of that firm twelve years. He then engaged in the grain business on his own account and built the elevator now owned by O. P. Nason. That he conducted four years, then established himself in his present location, the elevator purchased from the Cargill Elevator company. Of late years he has also dealt in coal and live stock in conjunction with his grain business.

On November 25, 1886, in Pipestone, our subject was united in marriage to Emma Peart, who was born in Illinois. Three children, Walter, William and Alice, have been born to this union. Mr. Fletcher is affiliated with the Masonic and United Workmen orders.

JACOB H. WIENER (1897), a stock buyer of Hatfield, was born in Germany on January 30, 1866, and three years later immigrated with his parents to the United States and located with them at Ashton, Lee county, Illinois. After a fourteen years' residence in Illinois, the family moved to Tama county, Iowa. The father of our subject, William H. Wiener, now a resident of Luverne, Iowa, bought land across the line from Tama county in Benton county. On that farm Jacob lived until he

was married at the age of twenty-two years. His mother, Anna C. (Schnell) Wiener, died August 20, 1890.

The year of his marriage Mr. Wiener established himself as an independent farmer in Benton and Tama counties, where he was located until coming Pipestone county in 1897. He located on the southeast quarter of section 35, Gray township, land he bought two years previous. In 1901 he began buying live stock for the Hatfield Grain & Lumber company, of which firm he became a member after six months' connection, and that prompted him to build a home and move to Hatfield. Shortly after, Mr. Wiener drew out of the company, having bought the live stock and general merchandise business. After two years, he disposed of his general store to William Lockwood, and since that time has devoted his time exclusively to buying and shipping stock. He was postmaster of Hatfield for five years following 1901.

The marriage of Jacob H. Wiener to Lizzie K. Pippert was solemnized at Dysart, Iowa, on November 8, 1888. Mrs. Wiener was born in Lee county, Illinois, February 16, 1866. The following eight children have been born to these parents: William H., Lilly K., Fred B., Esther, Gertrude, Loran, Walter and Marain.

Mr. Wiener is the owner of a farm in Clark county, South Dakota. He has served as a justice of the peace for the past three years and is an ex-member of the board of school district No. 13. He is a member of the German Evangelical church of Pipestone and has been superintendent of the Hatfield Sunday school for a number of years. Our subject is clerk of Hatfield Camp No. 10,397, M. W. A. lodge.

THEODORE P. HERMANSON (1905) is the manager of the Ruthton branch of the Lampert Lumber company. He was born in Denmark February 8, 1871, but he has no recollection of his native land, as he accompanied the family the year of his birth to their new home in America. His parents, Peter A. and Bodil (Peterson) Hermanson, brought up a family of seven children, all of who are living. Their names are Andrew, Anna (Mrs. A. C. Frandsen), Hannah (Mrs. Ole Espe), Theodore P., Nels,

Walter and Mamie (Mrs. Louis Towns-
wick). Peter A. Hermanson is still a resident of Story county, Iowa, where he settled in 1871 upon his arrival from Denmark. His wife, the mother of our subject, died in 1898.

Theodore P. Hermanson was educated in the common schools of Story county, Iowa, and as a young man took up the study of pharmacy at Highland Park college, Des Moines. After completing the course, he clerked for three years in a drug store at Goldfield, Iowa; then for twelve years he was a druggist of Roland, Iowa. Mr. Hermanson became a resident of Ruthton in 1905. At that time he bought an interest in the First National Bank, of which he is still vice president. For the benefit of his health he discontinued active work in the bank and accepted his present position with the Lampert company. He is the owner of a 250 acre farm in the close vicinity of Ruthton. Mr. Hermanson is the treasurer of the Ruthton board of education.

In Story county, Iowa, on July 21, 1894, our subject was married to Bessie O. Towns-
wick, who was born in Norway the thirtieth of November, 1870. Mr. and Mrs. Hermanson are the parents of three living children: Angie, Peter and Hazel. One son, Theodore, born March 20, 1906, died on March 10, 1908. They also have an adopted daughter, Frances Allen, who is now the wife of Hon. S. B. Duea.

GUSTAV BOEHMKE (1899) is the cashier and leading stockholder of the State Bank of Holland, a position he assumed in August, 1910, as a successor to P. M. Serrurier. He is the son of Emil and Anna (Weiben) Boehmke, natives of Schleswig-Holstein, Germany. They were married in the United States and were residents of Benton county, Iowa, until 1883, when they moved to their present home in Plymouth county, Iowa.

It was while the family were living in Benton county, on March 28, 1876, that Gustav Boehmke of this review was born. He was seven years of age when he moved with his parents to Plymouth county, where he grew to manhood on his father's farm. The education he received in the district

school of his precinct was supplemented by a course in the LeMars normal school. In 1899 Mr. Boehmke became a resident of Pipestone county. For five years thereafter he farmed the west half of section 17, Rock township, land he owned at the time. Later he disposed of that property and purchased a farm in Fountain Prairie township, which he still possesses.

In 1904 Mr. Boehmke established his residence in the village of Holland, at that time entering the employ of the Minnesota & Western Grain company as buyer. Six months later he bought the business of the Baker Elevator company in Holland and conducted it in his own name for three years, disposing of the same to become the manager of the Farmers Co-operative association. He retired from the grain business to become a banker, as noted above. He also deals in real estate.

Our subject is one of the prominent and influential men of affairs in Holland. He has served without interruption as the treasurer of the board of education since the first year of his residence in the village. He is also a member of the local board of health and of the village council. He has been a member of the council three years and for two terms was its president. Mr. Boehmke is a stockholder in the Farmers Co-operative association and is a member of the I. O. O. F. and M. W. A. lodges of Holland.

Gustav was married in Plymouth county, Iowa, on October 25, 1899, which was the birthday of his bride, Anna Breiholz. She is a native of that county and was born in 1879. They are the parents of three children: Pearl, born August 6, 1902; Vera, born August 22, 1903; and Roy, born April 29, 1905.

PRATT M. SERRURIER (1879) was until the beginning of the present year a well-known and successful Pipestone county banker, through his connection with the Holland State Bank, of the affairs of which he was the active manager for ten years—from the date of its founding. He moved in January, 1911, to Lynden, Washington, where he continues his banking career as the head of the Lynden State Bank.

Pratt is the oldest in a family of six chil-

dren born to Alex T. and Flora (Taylor) Serrurier, residents of Holland. The other children in the family are Theodore, Charlie, Lawrence, Alice (Mrs. D. R. Walker) and Florence. Alex T. Serrurier, the father of our subject, was born in Australia, of German-French parentage, while his wife is a native of Wisconsin, of English-Norwegian extraction. Mr. and Mrs. Serrurier settled in Pipestone county in the spring of 1879, and, with the exception of a few years spent in Iowa, they have maintained their residence in the county since the date mentioned. A. T. Serrurier is now a banker and hardware merchant of Holland.

Pratt M. Serrurier is a native of Pipestone county. He was born on the homestead of his grandfather in Grange township on December 12, 1879. When a child the family moved to Jones county, Iowa, where they remained six years, returning then to Pipestone county and locating on the southwest quarter of section 10, Grange township, which the father had taken as a tree claim. Pratt attended the district schools and later the Pipestone high school, from which he was graduated with the class of 1899. The same year he accepted the position of assistant cashier of the Woodstock State Bank, with which institution he was connected until February, 1901. Then he moved to Holland, and, in company with his father and R. W. Green, bought the private bank of Harris and Jacobs.

The Bank of Holland was conducted as a private enterprise until 1903, when it was reorganized as a state bank and a number of new stockholders added. Under Mr. Serrurier's control, in the official capacity of cashier, the bank prospered and developed into one of the leading and most substantial financial institutions in the county. The bank was able, through its earnings, to increase the \$5000 working capital, which it had at the time of organization in 1901, to a present capitalization and surplus fund of \$25,000, and has at the same time paid an average annual dividend of ten per cent. The neat little building which houses the bank was erected in 1908. In August, 1910, the bank and its business passed into the hands of a new administration, headed by Gus Boehmke as cashier.



PRATT M. SERRURIER
A Native of Pipestone County.



DR. HENRY C. DOMS
Practising Physician of Holland.



GUSTAV BOEHMKE
Cashier of the Holland State Bank.



L. H. MOORE
Former Pipestone Business Man.

During his residence in Pipestone county Mr. Serrurier earned a wide reputation as a successful banker and as a prominent man of affairs in his home community and the county at large. In May, 1910, he was honored by election to the presidency of the State Banker's association of the second congressional district. In 1908 he was chosen chairman of the republican county central committee and served in that capacity one year. He was, for several terms the president of the Holland village council and clerk of the school district. Mr. Serrurier holds membership in the I. O. O. F., M. W. A. and A. F. & A. M. lodges.

The subject of this biography was married in Holland on the twelfth of August, 1902, to Rozetta Sass, a native of Wisconsin. She was born in Sauk county October 1, 1877, and is the daughter of Herman Sass, an early settler of Pipestone county who now resides at Holland. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Serrurier: a son, Gordon, born September 17, 1906, and a daughter, Beulah, born July 9, 1908.

DR. HENRY C. DOMS (1905) has for six years been a practising physician and surgeon of the village of Holland and is a native son of Pipestone county. He is the son of Dr. W. M. Doms, of Woodstock, the present coroner of Pipestone county. His mother is Anna (Ingle) Doms, a native of Minnesota. The elder Dr. Doms is a native of Wisconsin. Dr. and Mrs. Doms were pioneer settlers of Burke township, where they resided until locating in Woodstock.

Dr. Henry C. Doms was born on his father's farm in Burke township on March 29, 1880. He was educated in the district schools of his native precinct and in the Pipestone high school. On deciding to take up the study of medicine, he matriculated in the medical department of the university of Kansas, from which he was graduated in 1905. Dr. Doms attended the College of Physicians and Surgeons, in Minneapolis, during the year 1903-04, and at the same time served as an assistant police surgeon in St. Paul. He located in Holland in 1905 and has since built up an extensive practice. He also conducts the Holland drug store, a business he purchased from A. H. Ellis.

Our subject was married in the city of Pipestone on July 9, 1905, to Anna Marie Thiel, a native of Marcus, Sioux county, Iowa. Dr. and Mrs. Doms are the parents of one daughter, named Elizabeth Ann. Dr. Doms is president of the village board of health and is village recorder. He is affiliated with the Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen and Royal Neighbors orders.

WILLIAM J. SCHROEDER (1896), one of Grange township's enterprising farmers, is a native of Cook county, Illinois. The date of his birth is July 31, 1868, and he is the son of Frederick and Frederika (Byer) Schroeder, both of whom came to this country from their native land of Germany. Frederick Schroeder was a shoemaker by trade and he followed that occupation in the town of Addison, Illinois, until our subject was in his second year.

The Schroeder family moved from Illinois to Platteville, Grant county, Wisconsin. The father followed his trade in that town for several years, then bought land in the vicinity and engaged in farming. After securing a district school education, William was for a year a student at the state normal school at Plattsville. He assisted his father in the management of the home farm until 1896, the year of his advent to Pipestone county. At that time he bought the farm which has since been his home, the northeast quarter of section 15, Grange. Mr. Schroeder devotes considerable attention to fine stock raising, especially Durham cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs.

Our subject is identified with a number of the foremost enterprises of his home community. He is the secretary of both the Farmers Elevator company of Holland and of the co-operative creamery at that place. He is the clerk of school district No. 4 and a member of the German Lutheran church of Holland, being the church treasurer. William is the oldest in a family of seven children, three sons and four daughters. He is unmarried.

AUGUST DITTMANN (1900), Osborne township farmer and stock raiser, was born in Pommern, Germany, on July 17,

1857. He is the son of John Dittmann, a laborer, who died in Chicago in 1908, and Freda (Bouto) Dittmann, who is buried in Germany. She passed away in 1871, when our subject was fourteen years of age.

August spent the first twenty-four years of his life in the land of his birth. He was brought up in the town of Sanof, was educated there, and at the age of sixteen years commenced work as a foundryman. He followed that occupation until coming to America, excepting two years (1878-79), when he served in the German army. Mr. Dittmann's first home in the new world, to which he immigrated in 1881, was at Atlantic, Iowa. He resided there nine years and was employed in construction work on the Rock Island railroad. He spent the next ten years as a section foreman on the Rock Island system at Shelby, Iowa.

Mr. Dittmann became a Pipestone county resident in 1900 and has since lived on the one farm, the north half of section 12, Osborne township, land he had bought in 1899. He set out a fine grove of trees on the place and erected substantial buildings. His herd of stock generally averages about sixteen horses, forty-five head of cattle and thirty hogs. Our subject owns stock in the Farmers Elevator company of Edgerton. He is a member of the German Lutheran church of the same place.

The marriage of August Dittmann to Hulda Hitts occurred at Sanof, Pommern, Germany, September 24, 1880. Mrs. Dittmann was born December 11, 1857. The following nine children have been born to these parents: Paul, of Canada; Minnie (Mrs. Wilson Mills), of Osborne; Emma (Mrs. Jacob Smith), of North Dakota; George, Willie, Martha, Freda, Rosa and John. The last six named reside at home.

WILLIAM J. PATTERSON (1882), of Edgerton, first settled in that village in 1882, and that summer he built the present public school building. Early in the year following Mr. Patterson homesteaded land in Moulton township, Murray county, upon which he maintained a residence until 1895, when he established a permanent residence in Edgerton. He operated the Edgerton flour mill for nine months, then for seven years was well known as the

landlord of the Howard hotel. Since retiring from the hotel business our subject has led a retired life in the village of his choice. For twelve years he has presided over the justice court.

A native of Canada, William J. Patterson was born in Clark township, seventeen miles distant from the city of Toronto, on October 10, 1841. When three years of age he crossed the border line with his parents and located with them in Kane county, Illinois, where he grew to manhood and became versed in the carpenter's trade. At the call for volunteers in the sixties Mr. Patterson offered his services to the union cause. He enlisted at Elgin, Illinois, in company B, Thirty-sixth Illinois cavalry, and served for two years. He was a participant in the battle of Pea Ridge, Arkansas, as well as other memorable engagements.

After his career in the army our subject became a resident of Minnesota. He engaged in the business of contracting and mill wright in the town of Stewartville until 1879, moving then to Spring Valley, where he was similarly employed. In July, 1882, Mr. Patterson arrived in Edgerton, which was destined to be the home in his declining years. He is a member of the Odd Fellows lodge.

At Rochester, Minnesota, on July 18, 1866, William J. Patterson was joined in marriage to Catherine E. Bonner, who was born in Mt. Pleasant, Wade county, Pennsylvania, March 21, 1842. To this union have been born the following nine children: Willis A., of Hingham, Montana; Jessie (Mrs. C. S. Howard), of Edgerton; Edwin F., of St. Cloud, Minnesota; Charles B., of Edgerton; Margaret, of California; George, of Edgerton; Nelueen (Mrs. C. F. Suerman), of LaCrosse, Wisconsin; Catherine E. and Merlyn, both of Edgerton.

JOHN W. STURDY (1899) is the owner of 240 acres of well improved land on section 17, Eden township. He has been a resident of the county since 1899. John and Matilda (Bagley) Sturdy, the parents of our subject, came from England about the year 1849 and settled in Herkimer

county, New York, where John W. Sturdy of this review was born May 4, 1853.

John was three years of age when the family departed from the Empire state and located on a farm in Delaware county, Ohio. There he was educated and lived until 1871, when Union county, Ohio, was made the family home. Ten years later Mr. Sturdy moved to Benton county, Iowa, and there farmed rented land for two years. The next nine years were spent on a homestead claim in Hand county, South Dakota, whence he moved to Belle Plaine, Iowa. He was employed on the railroad in that Iowa town until making settlement in Pipestone county. Mr. Sturdy is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator company of Ihlen. For three years he was clerk of school district No. 22 and is now the road overseer of district No. 2.

John W. Sturdy has been married twice. In Ohio he was wedded to Martha J. Wallace, who was born January 30, 1859, and who died March 13, 1891. Seven children were born to this union, named as follows: Lillie V., Iva I., Samuel O., Frank A., Homer H., Ada M. and Walter W. At Toledo, Iowa, our subject was married to Annie Beal, who was born in November, 1848, the daughter of Warner and Tressia Beal. Mr. Sturdy is a member of the I. O. O. F. lodge and the Baptist church.

SAMUEL B. ROCKEY (1890), Pipestone county's clerk of court, is a native son of Illinois. He was born in Stephenson county July 23, 1852, the son of W. F. and Elizabeth Rockey, both born in Pennsylvania. The latter parent has been dead for a number of years, but W. F. Rockey is still living and resides at Lincoln, Nebraska, at the advanced age of eighty-four years. Besides our subject there was one other child in the Rockey family. She is Emma (Mrs. F. M. Tynell), of Lincoln, Nebraska.

In early youth Samuel moved with his parents to Jo Daviess county, Illinois. He was educated in the public schools of Nora, and on attaining his majority engaged in the general mercantile business at that point. In 1886 Mr. Rockey became a resident of Minnesota. At that time he

moved to Chandler, Murray county, and continued his mercantile career. Two years later he disposed of his business and went to Kingsbury county, South Dakota, to remain until establishing his present residence in Pipestone, which was in 1890. Before leaving Illinois our subject acquired experience as an auctioneer and continued to follow that line of work after coming to Pipestone county. He was also the proprietor of a millinery and notion store, which Mrs. Rockey conducted. For several years Mr. Rockey was one of Pipestone's justices of the peace. He was elected to the office he now holds in the fall of 1906.

At Nora, Illinois, on December 23, 1871, Samuel B. Rockey was joined in marriage to Ella Bancroft, a native of New York state. One son, Foster W., was born to these parents, November 23, 1872. Foster met with an accident at Iowa Falls, Iowa, on January 4, 1901, which resulted in his death on that date.

HANS H. JEPSEN (1899) is a successful Sweet township farmer who has prospered since making Pipestone county his home twelve years ago. The parents of our subject came to the United States from their native land of Germany in 1865 and located in Scott county, Iowa. His father, Thomas Jepsen, is now a farmer of Atlantic, Cass county, Iowa. His mother, Christina (Jessen) Jepsen, died in the spring of 1894.

Hans was a year old infant when the Jepsen family moved from Scott county, where he was born September 15, 1869, to Gocse Lake, Clinton county, Iowa. Two years later another move was made, to Cass county, and in the country schools of that county our subject secured his education. In 1894 he assumed the management of the old homestead and conducted the same three years. For two years prior to coming to Pipestone county in 1899, Mr. Jepsen farmed near Walnut, Pottawattamie county, Iowa. He farmed in Sweet township for a year, then bought the northwest quarter of section 2, Eden, which he improved and upon which he made his home until the spring of 1911. He now leases his own farm and rents and farms the south

half of section 33, Sweet. Mr. Jepsen raises lots of stock. He is a member of the M. W. A. lodge of Pipestone.

In Cass county, Iowa, on March 24, 1894, the subject of this biography was married to Christina Paulsen, who was born in Germany September 16, 1873, and who came to this country in 1890. Mr. and Mrs. Jepsen are the parents of the following four children: Christ, born August 5, 1896; Harry, born April 18, 1898; Greth, born November 3, 1900; and Louis, born December 11, 1903.

SEVERT GULLICKSON (1904) has for seven years been a resident of Pipestone county and Ihlen, the little town of north Eden township. He is the manager of the Farmers Elevator company, a concern organized and incorporated in 1904 by a number of prominent agriculturists in the locality to buy and sell grain and coal. The elevator of the company has a capacity of 30,000 bushels. Following are the officers of the company: President, C. F. Price; secretary, W. C. Duea; treasurer, L. K. Villand. These officers, with the addition of John Dahlmeier and E. G. Wilson, constitute the board of directors. Mr. Gullickson is also a director of the Lutheran church and clerk of his school district.

Severt Gullickson of this review is a native of Minnesota and was born in Goodhue county on December 19, 1867. He is the son of Gullick and Margaret Kittilson, who came to America from their native land of Norway in 1862 and made settlement in Columbia county, Wisconsin. A removal to Minnesota was made, the family locating first in Goodhue county and later in Yellow Medicine county, where Gullick Kittilson homesteaded land. For a number of years he followed the trade of blacksmithing and died there in 1908 at the age of eighty-seven years. His wife, Margaret Kittilson, still resides in Yellow Medicine county.

Severt was in his second year when he moved with his parents to Yellow Medicine county, which was his home until 1904, the date of his settlement in Ihlen. He attended the district schools until fifteen years of age, then struck out in life for himself. He worked at the trade of

carpenter for a number of years and in 1894 commenced his career in the grain business. He bought grain for the Peavey Elevator company at Hanley Falls for three years, then moved to Granite Falls, where he was interested in the Granite Falls Hardware company. He then re-entered the employ of the Peavey company and was located at Echo for a year. For two years prior to moving to Ihlen he clerked in a general store in the town of Cottonwood. For five years previous to accepting his present position Mr. Gullickson managed the interests of the Northwestern Elevator company at Ihlen.

At Granite Falls, in 1899, our subject was married to Betsy Anderson, a native of Yellow Medicine county, where she was born October 18, 1878. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Gullickson, as follows: Alpha T., Mamie G., Harriet, Geneva and Ruth.

JAMES L. HENDREN (1886), of Woodstock, has a continuous residence in Minnesota of fifty-six years to his credit. A native of North Carolina, he was born in Eagle Mills, Iredell county, on December 9, 1843. As a child he moved with his parents to Boone county, Indiana, and later to Cedar Falls, Iowa. In 1855 the family moved to Wabasha county, Minnesota, where James grew to manhood.

At the call to arms to preserve the union James L. Hendren volunteered his service. He enlisted in company G, Eighth Minnesota regiment, on August 13, 1862, and served with distinction for three years, until mustered out in August, 1865. During the latter part of the great struggle he was in General Sibley's command and engaged in the frontier campaign, in which the army crossed the country to the west and penetrated as far as Idaho against the redskins.

With the return of peace our subject settled at Reed's Landing, Wabasha county, and for two years experienced the life of a riverman. He later farmed in the same county, and in 1878 he moved to the western part of the state, settling in Murray county, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1886, the date of his settlement in Woodstock. For four or five years

thereafter Mr. Hendren farmed, but of late years he was conducted a livery and feed stable. He has been constable of his precinct for the past twenty-three years, and for fifteen years he served as village marshal. He is a member of Stephen Miller Post No. 139, G. A. R., of Woodstock.

In Wabasha county, October 16, 1868, James L. Hendren was united in marriage to Mary M. Sherren, born in the Keystone state in 1847. Thirteen children were born to this union, three of whom, Elizabeth (Mrs. Addison Hughes), John and Florence, are dead. The names of the ten surviving children follow: George, James, Arthur, Ernest, Fred, Walter, Frank, Alice, Agnes and Mamie. A granddaughter, Stella Hughes, born on September 25, 1890, has lived in the home since the death of her mother, Elizabeth Hughes, on November 25, 1892.

ALEX MITCHELL (1892) is a well known resident of Jasper, which has been his home for the past nineteen years. He came to the village in 1892 to assume the management of the E. A. Brown elevator, which he later bought and conducted in his own name for a number of years. In March, 1910, he disposed of his elevator and extensive grain business to the Heaton Grain company. Since that time Mr. Mitchell has devoted his attention to his broad farming interests and to the business of buying and feeding stock. He owns a half section of productive Rock county land and 500 acres in Pipestone county.

Alex Mitchell is a native of bonny Scotland and was born in Aberdeen shire the eleventh of December, 1862. His parents, John and Isabella (Gray) Mitchell, are both buried in the land of the Scots. Alex received a careful education in his native country, and in 1883, during the first year of his manhood, he crossed the Atlantic and resided in Canada nine years. For part of the first year of his coming to the States he lived at Ashcreek, Rock county, and then established his present residence in Jasper. In 1909 Mr. Mitchell was a member of the village council. For a number of years past he has been president of the board of education. He holds membership in the M. W. A., M. B. A. and K. P. lodges.

On September 9, 1896, Alex Mitchell was wedded to Julia Fauth, a Hoosier by birth. The ceremony was solemnized at Jasper. To these parents the following named children have been born: Robert, Louise, Marion and John Alexander.

EDWIN S. THORNDYKE (1894) is one of the substantial farmers and successful stock raisers of Osborne township. In that precinct he has lived seventeen years, and he is the owner of a half section of its productive soil. A native of Wisconsin, he was born in Ripon, Fond du Lac county, on October 8, 1864. His father, William Thorndyke, of Ripon, was born in England in 1842 and came to the United States twelve years later. The mother of our subject was Eliza M. (Spencer) Thorndyke, who died November 6, 1891. She was born in Utica, New York, in 1837 and was the great-granddaughter of General Nathanael Greene, of revolutionary fame.

Edwin spent his first thirty years amid the scenes of his birth. He was reared on a farm, and after graduating from the high school at Dartford, Wisconsin, was for two years a student at Ripon college. On attaining his majority, he commenced farming in partnership with his father near Ripon and was so engaged up to the time of his coming to Pipestone county in 1894. At that time he located on his present farm, the northeast quarter of section 22, Osborne township, land he had purchased the year before. In addition to that farm, he is now also the owner of a quarter on section 15. He is a large breeder of high grade stock and superintends their shipment and marketing himself. Mr. Thorndyke served one term as treasurer of Osborne township, and for one term served on the Edgerton board of education. He is a member of the M. B. A., M. W. A. and K. P. lodges of Edgerton.

At Rosendale, Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, on the first of June, 1893, our subject was married to Ida E. Hyde, the daughter of Calvin and Adelaide E. (Flint) Hyde. Her father lives in Rosendale, but the mother died August 14, 1883. Both the Hyde and Flint families are of old New York stock, and both are of English origin. Mrs. Thorndyke was born in Fond du Lac

county, Wisconsin, February 21, 1867. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Thorndyke. They are Marguerita E., born May 16, 1894; W. Keith, born March 16, 1896; and Royal J., born June 1, 1901.

TOM HAGEN (1894), Sweet township farmer and stock raiser, is a German by birth. His nativity occurred February 8, 1879, in the province of Schleswig. He immigrated to America with his parents at the age of seven years and located with them in Scott county, Iowa. His father, John Hagen, a farmer by occupation, died in North Dakota May 18, 1906. His mother, Doris (Wolff) Hagen, still resides in Scott county.

Tom was reared on a farm and educated in the district schools of Scott county, which continued to be his home until 1894. That year the Hagen family moved to Rock county, Minnesota. Our subject lived on the home farm and hired out in Springwater township until 1902, when he rented the Pipestone county farm he now conducts. The farm comprises 240 acres of section 10, Sweet. Mr. Hagen is one of the large stockraisers of the precinct. He makes a specialty of Polled Angus cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator company of Pipestone.

On September 9, 1904, in Sweet township, our subject was married to Katie Booth, who was born in Paullina, Iowa, December 24, 1884. There have been three children from this union: Elsie, born June 6, 1905; Herman, born July 25, 1906; and Harold, born October 28, 1909.

PATRICK H. POWERS (1886), the efficient care-taker of Pipestone county's handsome court house, was born in Rockland, Michigan, August 10, 1860, of Irish parentage. He is one of three living sons, the names of the others being John J., of Wabasha county, and Edward, of Burke township. Their parents were Lawrence and Johannah (Nash) Powers, who came to America after their marriage in the Emerald isle. One daughter, Margaret, died in the state of Washington in April, 1905.

The mother of our subject died in February, 1879. His father, Lawrence Powers,

was a miner in Ireland and continued in that occupation after coming to this country and northern Michigan. The elder Mr. Powers died in 1887 in Wabasha county, Minnesota, to which place the family moved when Patrick was an eleven year old lad. He was brought up on a farm and educated in that county, which was his home until identifying himself with Pipestone county interests a quarter of a century ago. Mr. Powers bought the northeast quarter of section 27, Burke township, which he farmed until moving to the city of Pipestone in 1895. For ten years he was engaged in the threshing business, then in July, 1905, became the court house janitor. During his residence in Burke our subject served several years as a director of school district No. 48. He is a member of the Pipestone fire department and fraternally is allied with the Ancient Order of Hibernians.

Mr. Powers was married in the county on June 19, 1889, to Agnes O'Neill, who came with her parents, John and Rose O'Neill, from Canada and settled in Rock township in 1885. Mr. and Mrs. Powers are the parents of three children: Anna, a graduate of the Pipestone high school and Mankato normal, born April 2, 1891; Frank, born March 21, 1893; and Agnes, born January 15, 1895.

DIETRICH WINTER (1900) is one of the large landowners and successful farmers of Gray township. A native of Germany, he was born June 15, 1849, the son of Dietrich Winter and Mary Winter.

Mr. Winter was six years of age when he crossed the Atlantic with his parents and located with them, first in Sioux City, and later in Plymouth county, Iowa. There he grew up, bought land and farmed until establishing his residence in Pipestone county in 1900. At that time he bought the north half of section 9, Gray, upon which he makes his home. He later became the owner of the northeast quarter of section 16 and the east half of the southwest quarter of section 3, which makes a total of 560 acres of productive soil now farmed by Mr. Winter and his sons. He devotes considerable attention to the raising, buying and shipping of the best grades of stock.

He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator company of Pipestone.

In Plymouth county, Iowa, on May 12, 1879, the subject of this biography was married to Augusta Tiesler, who was born August 5, 1857, the daughter of Fred and Louise Tiesler. Mr. and Mrs. Winter have three sons, William, Fred and George.

ALBERT FRITZ (1897), of Rock township, was born across the seas, on a farm in West Prussia, October 30, 1874. He is the son of John and Mary (Roggenburgk) Fritz. Albert attended the common schools of his native land until sixteen years of age. Then he severed home ties and undertook the long journey alone to America. Arriving in the new world, he went to Hartley, Iowa, where resided an uncle, upon whose farm he was employed until 1897. That year Mr. Fritz cast his lot with Pipestone county's men of progress and bought the southwest quarter of section 21, Rock township, which has since been his home. He raises considerable stock, devoting especial attention to the breeding of thoroughbred Hereford cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs. Mr. Fritz is a stockholder in the farmers' elevator of Woodstock, and he is a member of the Odd Fellows lodge and the German Lutheran church.

The marriage of our subject to Katie Tjards occurred at Hartley, Iowa. Mrs. Fritz was born in Illinois July 4, 1882, the daughter of Daniel and Lydia (Gardas) Tjards. Mr. and Mrs. Fritz have the following named children: John, born December 25, 1898; Henry, born March 8, 1901; Otto, born June 16, 1903; Joseph, born March 20, 1905; William, born June 2, 1907; Lydia, born June 2, 1907; and Annie, born May 8, 1909.

G. E. SELLERS (1898), president of the Pipestone city council, and one of the city's representative men of business, is a native of Illinois. His father, Thomas J. Sellers, who was born in Delaware county, New York, and his mother, Eliza (Richardson) Sellers, a native of New Albany, Indiana, are now residents of Ottumwa, Iowa. They settled in Warren county, Illinois, in the

early fifties, and there the subject of this biography was born, November 3, 1864.

In Warren county Mr. Sellers grew to manhood. He was graduated from the high school at Alexis, following which he was for two terms a student at Knox college, Galesburg, Illinois. At the age of twenty-one he moved to Des Moines, Iowa, where he was located for a brief period, going from the capital city to the town of Walnut, where he was engaged in the furniture business until establishing his present residence in Pipestone. On July 6, 1898, our subject arrived in the city that was to be the field of his future successful endeavors. He bought the business of Alex. Powell, the pioneer furniture dealer of Pipestone, which under Mr. Sellers' ownership has developed to large proportions. It is now the only exclusive furniture and carpet store in the city.

While a resident of Walnut, Iowa, on May 13, 1888, G. E. Sellers was united in marriage to Minnie L. Dunlap, who was born in Albany, Wisconsin, March 11, 1862. To these parents two children have been born: Bernice E., born April 11, 1895, and M. Liona, born November 3, 1902.

Mr. Sellers is now serving his first term as president of the city council. He is a prominent figure in fraternal circles, holding membership in two branches of the Masonic order, in three branches of the Odd Fellows, in the Rebekahs, Eastern Star, Modern Woodmen of America and the Royal Neighbors. Mr. Sellers is a pastmaster of the A. F. & A. M. lodge.

L. K. VILAND (1907), of Eden township, is the owner of a well improved farm of 240 acres located in section 3 of that precinct. Mr. Viland was born in western Norway August 12, 1865, the son of Knut and Carrie (Fronsdall) Viland, both deceased.

The subject of this biography was less than a year old when the family departed from Norway to seek a home in the new world. They settled in Story county, Iowa, and in the district schools of that county L. K. Viland acquired his education. He was left fatherless at the age of eight years. When he became of sufficient age he undertook the management of the home

farm for his mother until after his twenty-fourth birthday. His mother died in Iowa in 1900. Our subject farmed rented land for five years, then bought a farm which he conducted until 1907, the year of his settlement in Pipestone county.

Mr. Viland owns stock in two leading enterprises of Ihlen, the Ihlen State Bank and the Farmers Elevator company. He was chosen a director of the elevator company in 1910 and of the bank in 1911. He was elected to the directorship of school district No. 66 in 1908. With his family he belongs to the Zion Lutheran church of Ihlen.

While a resident of Story county, on January 30, 1890, Mr. Viland was married to Christina Hill, who was born in Polk county, Iowa, June 29, 1866. Three children have been born to this union: Clarence, born January 1, 1891; John, born May 22, 1893; and Vinnie, born September 20, 1897.

DR. THOMAS LOWE (1904), of Pipestone, is a physician and surgeon of more than local prominence. He has been a member of the state board of medical examiners for the past nine years. Of this important body he served one term as president and is the present vice president. Dr. Lowe has been the head physician in the state of Minnesota for the Modern Woodmen order since 1901, and since 1907 in addition has held a similar position for the Canadian province of Manitoba.

Dr. Lowe is a Canadian by birth and one in a family of seven children, the others being James, of Slayton; David, of Cheney, Washington; John, of Hadley, Minnesota; Dr. William, of Madison, South Dakota; Minnie (Mrs. W. B. Stine), of Minneapolis; and Alex, of Hadley. The parents of our subject were James and Minnie (Chalberg) Lowe, both natives of Scotland, who early in life come to America and settled in Quebec, Canada. James Lowe died in Murray county, Minnesota, in 1896, at the age of seventy-six years, and his faithful wife preceded him to the grave by thirteen years. Mrs. Lowe was fifty-eight years of age at the time of her death.

At Lachute, Quebec, Canada, on November 8, 1858, Dr. Thomas Lowe was born.

Ten years later the family crossed the border to the United States and settled in Bremer county, Iowa. There James Lowe engaged in farming until 1877, when the family became residents of southwestern Minnesota. The father and his three oldest sons, James, David and John, all homesteaded land in Murray county.

The early district school education of our subject was supplemented by a course in the Decorah, Iowa, institute. After a career of two years as a school teacher, Thomas Lowe decided on medicine as his profession and matriculated at the Hahnemann Medical college of Chicago. He was graduated from that institution in 1885 and immediately thereafter entered upon the practice of his profession at Slayton, Murray county, where he resided until 1904, when he established his present residence in Pipestone. Dr. Lowe has taken extensive post-graduate work, at the New York Post-Graduate Medical school and special study of the eye, ear, nose and throat at a leading Chicago college. He is a member of the American Medical association, American Institute of Homeopathy, the Minnesota State Medical society and the Southwestern Minnesota Medical society. Dr. Lowe is the medical examiner for the New York Life, the Equitable Life, the Phoenix and other of the leading life insurance associations, and for various fraternal orders.

At Slayton, on June 18, 1887, Dr. Lowe was united in marriage to Sadie Southwell, a native of Wenona, Illinois, and the daughter of Captain Oran M. Southwell. To these parents have been born four children: William, born in 1892; Alice, born in 1894; Margaret, born in 1897; and Duncan, born in 1900. In fraternal circles Dr. Lowe is prominent. He holds membership in the following orders: Masonic, including the Royal Arch; Modern Woodmen, Modern Brotherhood of America, Yeomen, Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias.

HENRY BONINE (1887), one of the young and successful farmers of Grange township, is a native of that precinct. He is the second son in a family of six children born to Carl and Matilda Bonine, both deceased, who were born in Germany. Carl Bonine, a former well known resident of

Grange, died in 1895, and twelve years later, in 1907, his wife and the mother of our subject was called to her reward. Henry was born May 4, 1887, grew up on the parental farm and received a district school education. In 1908 he was awarded the southwest quarter of section 9, Grange, from his father's estate, and that is the place he has since made his home. Mr. Bonine is unmarried. He has three sisters, Louise, Hulda and Edith, and two brothers, Richard and Albert. He belongs to the German Lutheran church.

JOHN F. MAHL (1897), Elmer township farmer and landowner, was born across the seas, in Holstein, Germany, September 24, 1876. His father, Carl Mahl, formerly a Pipestone county farmer, returned in 1908 to Germany to spend his declining years in the land of his birth. The mother of our subject, Maggie (Sindt) Mahl, is also living.

At the age of fifteen John closed his career as a student in the German schools and with an uncle set sail for the new world. They located at Keystone, Benton county, Iowa, and there he was employed at farm labor until 1897, the year he moved to Pipestone county with his parents. Mr. Mahl assisted his father with the management of the home farm on section 20, Elmer, until 1902, when he bought and moved to his present farm, the southeast quarter of section 32, upon which he has made most of the improvements. In October, 1909, he bought the northeast quarter of the same section, which he leases.

On January 16, 1902, John F. Mahl was married to Carolina Sindt, a native of Keystone, Iowa, her birth having occurred January 6, 1880. The ceremony was solemnized in that town. One son, Carl, was born to these parents, on June 28, 1908. Mr. Mahl holds membership in the Modern Woodmen lodge at Trosky.

GEORGE G. STONE (1890) is the editor and publisher of the Farmer's Leader, of Pipestone, the leading democratic organ in the county and the official newspaper. Mr. Stone has been connected with the Leader in an editorial capacity for the past twenty-

one years and since 1895 has been the sole owner of that influential journal. He located in Pipestone in October, 1890, buying the paper at that time in partnership with C. C. Goodnow, who retired from the firm at the end of five years.

The entire life of George G. Stone has been passed in southwestern Minnesota. A native of Jackson county, he was born August 22, 1867, on the homestead of his father in Petersburg township. His parents were George D. and Elizabeth Ann (Isbel) Stone, both natives of St. Lawrence county, New York. They were among the very first settlers of this section of Minnesota, settling in Jackson county in 1865. George D. Stone died while visiting at the home of a daughter in Estherville, Iowa, and was sixty-seven years of age at the time. His wife passed away on the old homestead, having lived to the age of forty-five years. There were eleven children in the Stone family, of whom the following seven survive: Genta, Edward, Will, George G., of this review; Leon, Lewis and Elvin.

George commenced attending school at the age of five years, his first teacher being Mary Bordwell, who meted out knowledge to the young hopefuls in an old log shanty. In the fall of 1882 he moved to the village of Jackson and there finished his education and later was married. He learned the printer's trade and acquired the journalistic instinct in the office of the Jackson Republic, on which he was employed from March, 1887, to the commencement of his labors in Pipestone.

A few months before leaving Jackson, on April 29, 1890, Mr. Stone was united in marriage to Clara M. Gilbert, whose birth occurred in Freeborn county, Minnesota, on August 16, 1871. Her parents, Warren and Helen (Burlock) Gilbert, were among the very earliest settlers of Freeborn county. Her brother, Will Gilbert, built the old water-power mill on the Des Moines river, a short distance north of Jackson, in the pioneer days, and it was by reason of this that the old historic landmark was and is still known as the Gilbert Mill. Helen Burlock, the mother of Mrs. Stone, was the first white child born in the state of Minnesota according to all authentic records. Her father, Captain Burlock, was a mem-

ber of the garrison at Fort Snelling stationed there in the early thirties to protect government interests against the savage redmen. Captain Burlock had been accompanied from the east by his wife and in that frontier army post, on February 6, 1830, their daughter, Helen, was born. Mr. and Mrs. Stone are the parents of an only child, Lorna R., who was born the first day of February, 1895.

Our subject holds membership in the fraternal orders of the Odd Fellows and its auxiliaries, the Yeomen and the Modern Woodmen.

J. P. FEYEREISEN (1900) is a well-known resident of Burke township, in which precinct he owns and farms the south half of section 26 and engages to a large extent in the breeding of the highest grades of stock. There were but a few minor improvements of the farm when it came into the possession of Mr. Feyer-eisen; now he has a farm home that is unrivalled in the township. A fine new residence and barn were erected on the place during the summer of 1910.

Luxemburg is the native land of our subject. He was born February 28, 1864, the son of Steffen Feyer-eisen, a farmer by occupation, who died in 1884 at the age of eighty-two years, and of Mary (Pier) Feyer-eisen, also deceased. She passed away in 1887, being in her sixty-second year at the time.

Mr. Feyer-eisen resided on the home farm until after his twentieth birthday, then bade adieu to the scenes of his nativity and crossed the broad Atlantic to become an adopted son of Uncle Sam. For eleven years he farmed in Plymouth county, Iowa, then moved to Pocahontas county, where he bought a quarter section of land and continued his agricultural career. He disposed of his Iowa holdings in 1900 and invested in his present Pipestone county real estate. For six years past our subject has served as a director of school district No. 21. He is also a director of the Farmers Elevator company of Woodstock.

While a resident of Plymouth county, Iowa, in November, 1893, J. P. Feyer-eisen was joined in wedlock to Mary Annie Mounts, a native of Germany. She came to

America the year of her marriage. To this union have been born eight children, as follows: Henry, born September 4, 1894; Gabriel, born December 12, 1895; Albert, born March 20, 1897; Laura, born August 9, 1898; Willie, born April 29, 1900; Nick, born May 2, 1902; Emily, born January 4, 1904; and Frances, born July 27, 1905.

ARNOLD PILLING (1899) is one of the foremost business men and public spirited citizens of the village of Edgerton. He has resided there since 1899, that year having bought the lumber business and yards of the Bank of Edgerton, to which he later added a full line of farm implements, a business he has conducted to the present date. He carries a complete stock of building materials, cement, farm machinery, etc.

To the parents, William and Louisa (Baker) Pilling, natives of England and New York, respectively, Arnold Pilling was born February 24, 1858, in the town of Huron, Wisconsin. The father of our subject died in 1885 at Flandreau, South Dakota, but his mother is still living. When Arnold was six years of age the family moved to Dodge county, Minnesota, where he was educated and grew to manhood. At the age of twenty-three, in 1881, he went to Moody county, South Dakota, and took a homestead, upon which he lived eight years. He then engaged in the implement business and later in the lumber business in the town of Flandreau and continued so until 1896, when he moved to Fulda, Minnesota, to accept the management of the Colman Lumber company's yards at that point. In 1899 Mr. Pilling established his present business in Edgerton.

For a better and more progressive Edgerton Mr. Pilling has labored incessantly since becoming a resident of the thriving Pipestone county community. For the past ten years he has faithfully served as clerk of the board of education and holds an equally good record for service on the village council. Mr. Pilling is a prominent lodge man. He belongs to three ranks of the Masons—the Blue Lodge, the Royal Arch Masons, and the Commandery—and is also affiliated with the Workmen and Modern Woodmen orders.

In Dodge county, Minnesota, on July 28, 1880, the subject of this biography was married to Iona A. Harwood, who was born in Wisconsin July 4, 1862. To these parents the following four children have been born: Pearl Mary (Mrs. H. B. Francis), of Minneapolis; Roy William, of Chester, Montana; Clara Alice, a school teacher; and Beva Ione.

JAMES S. BROWN (1898) farms 200 acres of Altona township's soil and engages extensively in stock raising. He was born near Sandwich, Illinois, May 5, 1874, one in a family of nine children, two of whom are deceased. His parents were Andrew M. Brown, a native of Chemung county, New York, who died November 17, 1906, and Clara Jane (Davis) Brown, who was born in New York state May 29, 1842, and who now lives with her son. Andrew M. Brown, of Scotch-German descent, settled in Illinois and farmed continuously until his death at the age of fifty-six years, first in Illinois and later in Iowa. The Davis family is of German origin.

James was five years of age when the family made settlement in Calhoun county, Iowa, and there he passed the ensuing nineteen years of his life. He was educated in the district school and in the public schools of Gowrie. He commenced his self-supporting career as a well digger. He owned an outfit and conducted the business three years; then for five years he was engaged, most of the time, in pressing hay. Mr. Brown established a residence in Pipestone county in 1898. He was a Fountain Prairie township farmer until 1909, when he located on the farm on section 24, Altona, which he now rents. For eight years our subject served as clerk of school district No. 27, in Fountain Prairie township.

Mr. Brown is unmarried. He makes a home for his mother and two sisters, Annie and Eva. Two brothers, B. J. and Willis Brown, are dead. The remaining children in the Brown family are Sarah (Mrs. I. W. Cline), of Calhoun county, Iowa; Phoebe Jane (Mrs. W. J. Vance), of Green county, Iowa; W. M. Brown, of Calhoun county, Iowa; and Rosie (Mrs. C. H. Sowden), of Lincoln county, Minnesota.

DR. ELMER H. ARGETSINGER (1898), a prominent dentist of Pipestone, has been engaged in the practice of his profession in that city since 1898. A native of New York state, Dr. Argetsinger was born the thirteenth of May, 1873. Early in life he accompanied his parents in their removal to Minnesota, the family first settling in the city of Faribault and later establishing themselves at Mapleton, Blue Earth county. Graduating from the dental department of the university of Michigan with the class of 1896, our subject immediately thereafter located in his home town, Mapleton. Two years later Dr. Argetsinger commenced his residence in Pipestone. In 1903 a partnership was formed between Dr. Elmer H. Argetsinger and his brother, Dr. Ernest E. Argetsinger, in the conduct of their profession. Their offices are located over the State Bank of Pipestone.

G. W. and Mary Jane (Maricle) Argetsinger, the parents of Dr. Argetsinger, were natives of the Empire state and descended from early colonial stock. The mother died in September, 1907, and since that time G. W. Argetsinger has resided with his daughter at Mapleton, Minnesota. There are ten children in the Argetsinger family, all living. They are George F., of Pipestone; Mrs. John Burgett, of Faribault; Albert H., of Willets, California; Mrs. Joseph Stevens, of Mapleton; Ulysses G., of Mapleton; Norman E., of Oakes, North Dakota; Edward A., of Missoula, Montana; Elmer H., of Pipestone; Ernest E., of Pipestone; and Mrs. E. E. Newcomer, of Minneapolis.

On June 29, 1898, Dr. Argetsinger was joined in marriage to Carrie Lawrence, and to this union three children have been born: Genevieve, Elmer Erland and Alfred Glenn. The doctor holds membership in five different branches of the Masonic order, the Blue Lodge, Chapter, Eastern Star, Scottish Right and Shrine, in the Modern Woodmen and the Modern Brotherhood of America. He is a member of the Pipestone Library board.

AMEL E. SHUBERT (1887), who farms the northeast quarter of section 12, Gray township, has resided in the county twenty-four years. The date of his nativity is

January 3, 1867, and the event occurred in Iowa county, Iowa.

At the age of seventeen Amel left Iowa and with his parents, Martin and Tersie (Klotcher) Shubert, moved to Yellow Medicine county, Minnesota, where the father bought land. Our subject became identified with Pipestone county interests three years later. He was employed in Pipestone three years by Stanley Bros.; then he commenced his career as an independent farmer. He rented his present farm in the spring of 1910 and has lived there since. Mr. Shubert has for seven years been clerk of school district No. 32. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. lodge and the Catholic church.

At Marshall, Lyon county, on October 17, 1905, was performed the ceremony which united Amel E. Shubert and Kate Panck in the bonds of matrimony. Mrs. Shubert is a native of Wisconsin and was born in 1882, the daughter of Steven Panck. Three children have been born to these parents, namely, Mabel, Miland and Amel.

GEORGE R. STEVENS (1906) has been the manager of the Farmers Co-operative association of Ruthton since its organization. This flourishing company was organized and incorporated in June, 1906, by a number of prominent business men and farmers of Ruthton and vicinity. The company owns the former elevator property of the Minnesota & Western Grain company and handles grain, coal, feed and flour. The following is the present list of officers: President, J. J. Beal; secretary, W. L. Rogde; treasurer, S. B. Duea; manager, G. R. Stevens. The directors are Ed. Ginzel, M. M. Bly, Christ Hansen and Alva Smith.

The subject of this biography is a native of the south, having been born in Gallatin, Tennessee, on the fifth of August, 1868. He was the eldest child born to John B. and Martha (Gregg) Stevens, both of whom are deceased. The former was a native of Ohio and the latter of Pennsylvania. George was in his first year when the family moved to Nebraska, and on his father's farm in that state he developed into manhood.

At the age of twenty-one Mr. Stevens forsook the shelter of the parental roof and became a resident of Minnesota. He farm-

ed near Currie, Murray county, for two years and was similarly engaged near the town of Lake Wilson. He clerked in a Lake Wilson store for three years prior to 1906, the year of his settlement in Ruthton and commencement of the duties of his present position. Mr. Stevens is one of Ruthton's councilmen. He is a member of the Blue Lodge of Ruthton, the Royal Arch Chapter at Pipestone, and of the Modern Woodmen lodge.

While a resident of Lake Wilson, on September 1, 1895, George R. Stevens was married to Susan Saboin, who was born near Alma City, Waseca county, Minnesota, August 14, 1870. A son and a daughter have been born to these parents. They are Harold, born July 30, 1896, and Mildred, born December 26, 1898.

ED. B. MALOSH (1901) is one of Sweet township's enterprising agriculturists. He is a native of Ohio and was born in Miami county November 21, 1855. In that county his father, Jerome B. Malosh, was also born, on April 1, 1827. The father of Jerome B. Malosh came from France and his mother was a native of Scotland. The mother of our subject, Catherine (Phillips) Malosh, was born in the state of New York February 17, 1831. The Phillips family are of old Pennsylvania Dutch stock. Both parents are living and reside in Wisconsin.

Ed. was a six months old babe when the Malosh family departed from the Buckeye state and made settlement in Vernon county, Wisconsin. There he was educated and resided until arriving at the age of twenty-one years. That year, 1876, he severed home ties and became a resident of Olmsted county, Minnesota. He was employed at farm labor for seven years and then returned to Wisconsin for two years. He spent a year in Berrien county, Michigan, and for a like period was employed in the pineries of northern Wisconsin. We next find our subject as a farmer in Moody county, South Dakota, where he remained three years; then he resided on a farm in his old locality in Wisconsin for eleven years.

In February, 1900, Mr. Malosh once more effected a settlement in Moody county, South Dakota. In another year he made his first acquaintance with Pipestone coun-

ty. He farmed four years in Sweet township; then once more located in Moody county. That time he remained two years and then was lured back by the advantages of Pipestone county, his home since. He has for four years been located on his present place, the north half of section 19, Sweet township.

At Flandreau, South Dakota, on November 21, 1887, our subject was married to Josie Johnson, who was born in Norway March 22, 1866, and who came to this country in 1883. Mr. and Mrs. Malosh are the parents of two children: Roy, born October 14, 1888; and Cora, born August 2, 1890.

JOHN J. NATZKE (1882), real estate dealer of Pipestone, is a native of McHenry county, Illinois. He is one of four living children, the names of the others being William, Augusta and Hannah, who were born to August and Louisa Natzke, both natives of Germany and now deceased.

The date of the birth of our subject was December 8, 1860. When four years of age he moved with his parents to Butler county, Iowa, where he was educated and grew to manhood. When twenty-two years old John cast his lot with the young but promising Pipestone county. He bought the northwest quarter of section 12, Eden township, which he improved and upon which he made his home until moving to Pipestone City in 1904. He still owns his Eden farm, together with three other quarter sections in the same precinct. During his residence in that township he served as a member of the board of supervisors and also as treasurer of his school district. Mr. Natzke has devoted his attention to the real estate business and the management of his property interests since moving to the county seat. He recently completed a handsome bungalow in the city, planned after a building of the same type he became impressed with while on a trip through southern California.

Mr. Natzke was married in Eden township on January 26, 1881, to Emma E. Lange, a native of Dane county, Wisconsin. They are the parents of the following four children: William, who operates the home farm; Clara (Mrs. Frank Ett-

ner), of Elgin, Illinois; Elmer, who married Josephine Nelson and resides at Sioux City, Iowa; and Lillian, of Pipestone.

CHRIS F. RIECK (1902) owns and farms the east half of section 7, Osborne township, and is an extensive breeder of Short-horn cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs. His home has been in Pipestone county since 1902. A native of Mecklenburg, Germany, he was born January 25, 1863, the son of Chris and Dorathea Rieck, who immigrated to the United States when our subject was a child.

The family first located in Iowa county, Iowa. For three years they lived in the town of Amana and then the father engaged in farming. After six years the family home was established in Benton county, the same state, and there our subject lived and farmed until becoming a resident of Pipestone county in 1902. He has made many substantial improvements on his farm, completing in the summer of 1910 a fine residence and barn costing over \$4000. Mr. Rieck is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator company of Edgerton, is a member of the township board and clerk of school district No. 43.

In Benton county, Iowa, the twenty-eighth day of February, 1886, Chris F. Rieck was united in marriage to Emily J. Wehrman, the daughter of Henry and Sarah (Elder) Wehrman. She is a native of Iowa and was born September 19, 1863. Four sons have been born to these parents. They are Fred, born March 13, 1887; Rudolph, born March 7, 1889; Edward, born July 8, 1893; and John, born March 23, 1905. The family are members of the German Lutheran church.

NICHOLAS VOS (1898), farmer and stock raiser of Elmer township, owns the southwest quarter of section 23 of that precinct. His parents, Rokus and Nellie (Denberger) Vos, were natives of The Netherlands who settled in Marion county, Iowa, at an early date. In that county our subject was born January 14, 1862. Nicholas was fourteen years of age when the family moved to Sioux county, Iowa, and there he finished his schooling. At

the age of twenty he commenced the snapping of his own career. He farmed rented land five years, was employed on the railroad ten years, and in 1898 established himself on the Pipestone county farm he now owns. Mr. Vos makes a specialty of breeding Durham cattle. He owns stock in the farmers' elevator at Trosky and is a member of the M. W. A. lodge.

The subject of this biography was married at Alton, Iowa, February 22, 1882, to Cornelia Depenning, who was born April 17, 1862, the daughter of Leonard Depenning. Mr. and Mrs. Vos are the parents of the following nine children: P. Nellie (Mrs. A. J. Grandia), born January 18, 1883; Leonard, born April 28, 1885; Kate (Mrs. James Swart), born March 30, 1887; Walter, born December 1, 1892; Roy, born November 1, 1895; Lydia, born February 9, 1897; John P., born February 5, 1899; Clarence A., born June 28, 1902; and Nicholas C., born January 10, 1906.

EDWARD BURG (1889) is the manager of the Farmers Elevator company at Jasper and is president of the village council. He has always been prominent in the civic affairs of his home town and on several occasions has served as a member of the council.

Edward Burg was born in Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, October 3, 1862. Up to his seventeenth year his life was passed on his father's farm in the native county. On leaving home he went to the iron range district of Michigan, where for six years he was employed in the mines and at various other occupations. On leaving Michigan he made North Dakota his destination, and in that state he worked as a mechanic with an elevator construction crew, maintaining headquarters at Wahpeton. After two seasons at such employment our subject went to Danvers, Minnesota, where he accepted a position as grain buyer for the Northwestern Elevator company. After a year he was transferred to Ihlen, Minnesota, and in 1888 to Jasper, which has been his home continuously since.

He had charge of the Northwestern company's interests in Jasper for nineteen years, or until July, 1908, when he accept-

ed his present position. The farmers' elevator, of which he is the manager, was built three years ago by a company of representative farmers of Pipestone and Rock counties. The organizers were John W. Wehrman, John Kahler, Andrew Enger, John Seeman, W. J. Drew, F. H. Everett, Canuel Van Acker, P. H. Norval, F. E. Seeman, Otto K. Steen, P. O. Olson and T. T. Bieber. The present officers are: President, John W. Wehrman; vice president, P. H. Hermanson; secretary, W. J. Drew; treasurer, F. C. Bauman; directors, John Kahler, Gunder Peterson, Emil Madetcke, J. H. Manion and Otto K. Steen; manager, Edward Burg. The company is incorporated and does a general grain and fuel business.

Edward is the son of John and Hildgard Burg, both natives of Germany, who came to this country at the ages of six months and sixteen years, respectively. They were married in Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, and there Mr. Burg still resides. His wife has been dead for twenty-seven years.

Our subject was married in the county of his birth July 29, 1888, to Christina Berrens, born in the same county May 16, 1863. Mr. and Mrs. Burg are the parents of two living children: Hiram A., born October 4, 1891, and Lester H., born August 15, 1895. One child, Mark C., was born August 19, 1889, and died November 7, 1889. Mr. Burg is a member of the Masonic and Workmen lodges.

WILLIAM BOYCE (1890), Gray township farmer, was born in Allamakee county, Iowa, on the nineteenth of February, 1872. His parents, Samuel Boyce, a New Yorker by birth, and Philema (Young) Boyce, a native of Ohio, were early settlers of that Iowa county. William was eleven years of age when the Boyce family moved to O'Brien county, Iowa, whence they moved, after a seven years' residence, to Pipestone county. Samuel Boyce bought the northwest quarter of section 10, Gray township, and that farm our subject has rented and farmed since 1900. Mr. Boyce is a large stock raiser. He is the treasurer of school district No. 5. In a fraternal

way he is affiliated with the I. O. O. F. and M. W. A. lodges.

At Woodstock, on June 19, 1900, our subject was joined in marriage to Louise Carpenter, who was born in Champaign county, Illinois, June 3, 1862. Mrs. Boyce is the daughter of James and Mary E. (Feeks) Carpenter, both natives of New York.

OLE WILLIAMS (1908) owns and farms the northeast quarter of section 6, Aetna township, land which he bought on first coming to the county three years ago. His parents, Johannes and Guri (Knutson) Wilhelmson, were small farmers in Hangesund, Norway, where occurred the birth of our subject on July 27, 1866. In the first year of his manhood Ole embarked from native shores and journeyed to America alone. He was employed for three years on a farm near Sanborn, Iowa, then engaged in ditching and tiling work at Lake City, Iowa. Mr. Williams later rented land and farmed in Sac county, Iowa, of which he was a resident until coming to Pipestone county in 1908.

On December 30, 1894, while visiting at his old home in Norway, Ole Williams was married to Annie Halvorson, the daughter of Peter and Mari (Larson) Halvorson. They are the parents of the following five children: Martin, born December 8, 1895; Gilbert, born May 23, 1897; William, born January 18, 1899; Mabel, born October 6, 1901; and Melvin, born September 8, 1907. The family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

DR. ERNEST E. ARGETSINGER (1897), of Pipestone, is associated with his brother, Dr. Elmer H. Argetsinger, in the practice of the dental profession. Argetsinger & Argetsinger have been established in commodious quarters over the Pipestone State Bank since 1903.

Our subject is one in a family of ten children born to G. W. and Mary Jane (Maricle) Argetsinger, both of whom were natives of New York. The former parent is still living and is a resident of Mapleton, Minnesota, but Mary Jane (Maricle) Argetsinger has been deceased since September,

1907. Shortly after the Argetsingers moved from the east and settled in Minnesota, on April 8, 1879, Ernest E. of this review was born. At the age of three years he moved with his parents from Faribault, the city of his birth, to Mapleton, which was the family home for many years. In 1895 a removal to Wisconsin was effected, and from that state two years later the family came to Pipestone county and established a residence. Dr. Argetsinger has been a Pipestone dentist since 1903, the year of his graduation from the university of Michigan.

At Mankato, on June 15, 1905, Dr. E. E. Argetsinger was married to Anna Deem, a native of Ohio. The following three children have been born to this union: John D., Ellsworth B. and Harry. Fraternally our subject is affiliated with the Masonic and Modern Woodmen orders, and for several years he has been a member of the Pipestone board of education.

G. L. CHESLEY (1887) has for twenty-four years been known as the artistic photographer of Pipestone. His studio is a model of its kind and is excelled for arrangement and equipment by none in southwestern Minnesota.

The subject of this biography is a native Minnesotan, his birth having occurred at Owatonna on December 5, 1860. There he was educated and learned the photographer's art in the studio of his father. On leaving home Mr. Chesley worked as a photographer in various cities, among them St. Louis, Milwaukee and Minneapolis. He settled in Pipestone in 1887.

The marriage of Mr. Chesley to Dora M. Pierson occurred in Pipestone October 20, 1892. Mrs. Chesley was born in Mankato, Minnesota. There have been three children as the result of this union: Donald and Dorothy, twins, aged fifteen years, and Eloise, aged eight years.

ANDREW H. NELSON (1889) is one of Jasper's pioneer citizens and business men, having come to the village the spring following its founding. He erected a small building and in a modest way engaged in wagon making. His business grew from

the start, and a few years after his arrival it became necessary to increase his facilities. He erected the building which now houses his business, which is styled the Jasper wagon shop. In addition, he buys and sells old iron and metals.

Andrew's birthplace is Green county, Wisconsin, the date of his nativity, December 14, 1855. That was his home for the first four years of his life, when he moved with his parents to Winneshiek county, Iowa. There he grew to manhood, securing his education in a Norwegian parochial school. Starting out in the world, he first went to Waukon, Iowa, where he learned the trade of wagon maker, and for ten years that was his home. We next find him in Rock Rapids, Iowa, where for three years he worked at the carpenter trade. Following this, he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, farming three years in Martin township, Rock county. Then for six months he was the proprietor of a hotel at the then new town of Bruce. From Bruce he went direct to Jasper, which is still his home.

Andrew Lesney and Isabelle Lesney, the parents of Andrew Nelson, were both natives of Norway. The father died in Wisconsin a few months before Andrew was born. His mother was married a second time to Nels Sjurson. She died some years ago at Hills, Minnesota.

On July 30, 1883, at Luverne, Mr. Nelson was united in marriage to Annie Peterson, a Norwegian by birth, who came to America when only a year and one-half old. To them were born eleven children, of whom the following six are still living: Arthur Henry, born August 14, 1892; Addie Carl, born January 14, 1895; Pearl Mabel, born March 12, 1896; Wyeth Philip, born November 24, 1901; Daphne Louise, born April 23, 1904; Andrew Wilfred, born May 2, 1909. Of the five deceased children, three died within a few days of each other of black diphtheria. The dates of the births and deaths of the children who have passed away are as follows: Ida Millia, born April 20, 1884, died February 12, 1892; Clara Louise, born November 20, 1885, died February 13 1892; Arthur Henry, born February 20, 1888, died February 7, 1892; Peter William, born April 3, 1890, died Decem-

ber 7, 1909; Magdlen Emily, born February 10, 1907, died March 7, 1907.

For one term Mr. Nelson served as justice of the peace. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

HANS RUSSAU (1906), now a retired farmer of Pipestone, until recently owned and farmed the northeast quarter of section 34, Troy township, which was his home since 1906. A native of Germany, Hans was born in the province of Holstein May 19, 1864, the son of John Russau, a laborer, and Catherine (Haij) Russau. He bade farewell to native land at the age of seventeen years and became an adopted son of Uncle Sam. For a year and a half he was employed as a gardener and teamster in Chicago, then became a Tama county, Iowa, farmer. Five years ago he settled in Pipestone county. While on the farm Mr. Russau engaged extensively in stock raising and made a specialty of Shorthorn cattle. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Telephone company.

Recently Mr. Russau sold his farm, for which he obtained a record-breaking price per acre. On January 11, 1911, he held a public sale, when he also obtained record-breaking prices for his cattle and sheep. Mr. Russau has now retired from active pursuits and makes his home in Pipestone.

Our subject was married in Chicago on February 19, 1903, to Annie Jarmuth, whose birth occurred December 12, 1870, at Niles Center, Illinois. Mrs. Russau is the daughter of Charles and Sophia (Peters) Jarmuth, both natives of Mecklenberg, Germany. They came to the United States in 1855 and homesteaded land near Chicago.

JAMES A. ROBSON (1907), secretary of Robson-Hilliard Company, the wholesale grocery concern that has contributed in a large measure to the fame of Pipestone as a commercial center, has been a resident of that city since the organization of the enterprise. The company of Robson-Hilliard was organized in 1907 and is capitalized for the sum of \$75,000.

The subject of this biography is a son of one of the promoters of the company, J. H. Robson, a resident of Owatonna, Minne-

sota. J. H. Robson was an early settler of that eastern Minnesota city and was born in Fillmore county when that territory was just commencing to be opened for settlement. J. H. Robson married Anna G. Schad, now deceased, who had the distinction of having been the very first white child born in Freeborn, one of Minnesota's oldest counties. March 6, 1885, is the date of the birth of James A. Robson, the event occurring in the city of Owatonna. He was educated in Pillsbury academy and the university of Wisconsin, and came direct from the latter institution to assume his present duties in Pipestone in May, 1907.

At Minneapolis, on June 22, 1908, Mr. Robson was joined in marriage to Lora Seeley, a Canadian by birth. To these parents has been born one daughter, Jane.

JOHN P. ASHBAUGH (1884), for twenty-seven years a resident of Edgerton and the proprietor of a drug store at that place, was born in Pike county, Ohio, November 25, 1856. He is the son of Nimrod and Elizabeth (Gleason) Ashbaugh, natives of Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, and Wooster, Ohio, respectively. His mother died in 1894 and his father passed away July 28, 1910, at the age of seventy-six years, at the home of a daughter in Albany, Oregon.

During his sixteenth year John moved with his parents from the Hoosier state to Tama county, Iowa, and three years later went with them to Nobles county, Minnesota, the father taking a homestead in Ransom township. In 1884 Mr. Ashbaugh moved to Edgerton, which has been his home ever since. In company with his brother-in-law, George Gulick, he bought and conducted a grocery store for awhile, then traded the business to William Lockwood for the Edgerton hotel, which the two gentlemen operated nine years. On dissolving partnership, Mr. Ashbaugh bought and farmed land two miles east of the village for eight years.

On retiring from farm life our subject resumed his residence in Edgerton, built a home, and in 1904, in company with H. B. Francis, bought the drug store of Dr. T. B. Francis. This partnership existed

for two years, and since then Mr. Ashbaugh has conducted the business alone. He carries a complete line of drugs, toilet articles, stationery, etc. He served as president of the Edgerton village council in the early nineties, and for the past three years has been the village treasurer. Mr. Ashbaugh is the owner of a quarter section of land in Osborne township and of a half section in South Dakota. He is a member of the Masonic, K. P. and M. W. A. lodges.

John P. Ashbaugh was married in Dodgeville, Wisconsin, February 14, 1885, to Bessie Gulick, who was born in that place in 1854. Mrs. Ashbaugh died April 12, 1910, aged fifty-six years. Two sons were born to this union: Vergil J., on July 12, 1893, and Alfred M., on April 9, 1895.

JOSEPH G. McGLASHEN (1899), a well known Osborne township farmer, is an Iowan by nativity and was born in Tama county October 23, 1880. His father, James McGlashen, of Edgerton, is a native of Scotland. His mother, Mary (Steen) McGlashen, died the month following the birth of our subject, in November, 1880. She was born in Scotland, of Irish parentage.

In early boyhood Joseph moved with his father from Tama to Grundy county, Iowa, and resided there until fifteen years of age. He was reared and educated in the town of Morrison. On leaving Iowa, the father and son resided for a year near Winnipeg, Manitoba, then settled in Minnesota. For three years he was employed in a grain elevator at Chandler, Murray county, then in 1899 came to Pipestone county.

Mr. McGlashen resided four years in the village of Hatfield, where he was a grain buyer and manager of the lumber yard. During two winters before leaving Chandler he had found opportunity to take a course in the Cedar Rapids Business college. He left Hatfield to become manager of the large Fay farm, of which his father was the financial manager. This farm comprises the whole of section 33, Osborne township, and he ably conducted the large tract for a period of six years. In the spring of 1910 Mr. McGlashen rented and moved to his present farm, the

southwest quarter of section 26. He raises stock quite extensively.

On June 3, 1903, at Edgerton, Joseph G. McGlashen was married to Sarah Jane Evans, the daughter of David Evans, of Osborne township. She was born in Iowa county, Wisconsin, December 31, 1884.

Mr. McGlashen is a Mason and a Macca-bee, being a member of Edgerton Lodge No. 235, A. F. & A. M., and Pipestone Tent No. 142, K. O. T. M.

RALPH G. HART (1881), the present editor of the Pipestone County Star, is the youngest of three sons born to Isaac L. and Mary E. (Gardner) Hart, who settled in the city of Pipestone during the first year of its existence.

The subject of this review has passed his entire life in the city of Pipestone. Ralph was born February 6, 1881, and was graduated from the Pipestone high school with the class of 1899. From his earliest school days he devoted his spare time in familiarizing himself with the many phases of the printing business and was well prepared to assume the editorship of such a paper as the Star, which he did in 1900. In a fraternal way Mr. Hart is affiliated with the United Workmen and Sons of Veterans orders.

On August 20, 1903, Ralph G. Hart was united in marriage to Lulu Heath Reed, who was born in Brooklyn, Iowa, September 9, 1883. Mr. and Mrs. Hart have three children: Grace L., born December 8, 1904; Reed G., born January 4, 1908; and Donovan H., born August 1, 1909.

JOHN BECK (1908), a business man of Ruthton, was born in Iroquois county, Illinois, on July 16, 1889. He is the son of Christ and Julia Beck and is one in a family of nine children, the following six of whom are living: Peter, Andrew, Julius, Amelia, John and Arthur. The parents emigrated from their native land of Denmark in 1871 and arrived in Chicago the evening before the commencement of the disastrous conflagration in which the city was nearly destroyed by fire. The family settled in Iroquois county, Illinois, where both the father and the mother died.

John was reared on his father's Illinois farm and was educated in the near by district schools. He farmed two years after the death of his father and in 1908 came to Ruthton. He was employed for nearly a year with a threshing crew and then accepted a position in the Dean Hansen harness shop. In April, 1910, our subject bought out his employer and has since conducted the business. Mr. Beck conducts a harness and shoe repairing department in connection.

Mr. Beck is a member of the Ruthton Danish Lutheran church and of the Modern Woodmen of America lodge.

AARON S. JACKSON (1897), Gray township farmer, is an Iowan by birth. He was born in Floyd county February 26, 1880, the son of Aaron and Mary (Jefferson) Jackson, natives of New Hampshire and Missouri, respectively. Aaron was educated in the district schools of Floyd county and assisted in the cultivation of the home farm, with the exception of three years spent in Cerro Gordo county, until he moved to Pipestone county in 1897. Since the spring of 1910 Mr. Jackson has rented and farmed the southwest quarter of section 29, Gray. He holds membership in the Modern Woodmen lodge.

At Worthington, Nobles county, on April 12, 1905, Aaron S. Jackson was united in marriage to Mary Mickelson, the daughter of Iver and Aase Mickelson, now of South Dakota. Mrs. Jackson was born in Norway December 8, 1879. Three children have resulted from this union: Milton G., born October 26, 1906; Ruth S., born January 24, 1909; and Edward C., born July 17, 1910.

GEORGE F. ARGETSINGER (1901), a Pipestone contractor and builder, is a native of the Empire state. He was born in Steuben county, New York, January 24, 1860, the son of George W. and Mary J. (Maricle) Argetsinger, both of whom were also New Yorkers by birth.

Our subject was fourteen years of age when he moved west with his parents. The family located near Faribault, Rice county, Minnesota, where the father bought

land and engaged in farming. After eight years Mr. Argetsinger went to Mapleton, Blue Earth county, where he was destined to reside nineteen years. He followed the building trade and also was employed in a lumber yard in that town prior to 1901, when he selected Pipestone for his future home and built a residence in which he has since lived. Our subject is a member of the Baptist church and of three fraternal orders, the Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen and Sons of Veterans.

George F. Argetsinger was married at Mapleton, Blue Earth county, on October 14, 1884, to Ella Bowman, a native of that town. Mrs. Argetsinger is the daughter of Thomas and Sarah (Dezell) Bowman, natives of New York, and she was born October 14, 1865. The following five children have blessed this union: Elsie E., born October 14, 1885; George Leslie, born March 7, 1887; Mary J., born August 21, 1890; G. Winnifred, born February 20, 1893; and Francis M., born May 9, 1898.

HENRY SHAFER (1893) is numbered among the progressive farmers and large stock raisers of Burke township, in which precinct he owns the southeast quarter of section 17. A native of Livingston county, Illinois, he was born December 23, 1865, and on the farm of his father in that county he grew to manhood. His parents were John and Martha (Leister) Shafer, both of whom came from Germany.

At the age of twenty-one Henry went to Nebraska. He bought an eighty acre farm near North Platte, Lincoln county, but at the end of a year sold his right to the land and returned to his native state. He farmed in Illinois until 1893, the year of his advent to Pipestone county and Burke township. For twelve years our subject has been the treasurer of school district No. 32 and has served the town of Burke in a similar capacity for three years. He is a shareholder in the farmers' elevator at Woodstock.

The marriage of Mr. Shafer to Adelia Rickerman was solemnized in Grange township November 21, 1894. Mrs. Shafer, the daughter of George and Jane (Roessler) Rickerman, was born in Clifton, Wisconsin, August 19, 1868. Three children have

been born to this union. They are Mabel, born July 22, 1896; William, born September 5, 1900; and Esther, born March 6, 1902.

HUGH CORRIGAN (1900) is numbered among the prosperous and progressive farmers of Sweet township. In that precinct he owns 480 acres of choice land, located on sections 12 and 13, range 47. That land was originally the property of his father, John Corrigan, who bequeathed it all, together with a quarter section in Day county, South Dakota, to his son Hugh.

John Corrigan was born on Christmas day, 1834, in county Caven, Ireland, and in 1863 immigrated to the United States. He located near Aurora, Illinois, and from then until his death, which occurred March 31, 1905, he engaged profitably in farming and stock raising in Illinois. He amassed quite a fortune and his landed interests were large, including 900 acres in Livingston county, Illinois, and three quarter sections in Pipestone county, which he had bought as an investment. The same year that Mr. Corrigan came to America came also Jamima Dunlap, who later became his wife. She was also a native of county Caven, Ireland, and was born April 10, 1843. She survives her husband and lives on the old farm in Illinois.

Eight children, four sons and four daughters, were born to John and Jamima (Dunlap) Corrigan, all but two of whom are living. The names of the children follow: Peter, a Livingston county farmer, born February 23, 1864; Eugene, deceased, born March 25, 1866, died March 25, 1893; Mary (Mrs. James Wallace), of Cottonwood, Minnesota, born August 29, 1867; Hugh, of this biography, born May 24, 1869; Alice, who died at the age of twenty-two months; James, in the automobile business at Pontiac, Illinois, born October 25, 1873; Alice (Mrs. Ray Snyder), of Cornell, Illinois, born December 12, 1875; and Maggie (Mrs. James Grant), of Pontiac, Illinois, born June 12, 1878.

The birth of our subject, already noted, occurred six miles north of Chatsworth, in Charlotte township, Livingston county, Illinois. In that county Hugh Corrigan was reared, educated and lived until 1900. He

grew up on the farm of his father, then rented land and engaged in farming on his own account. He arrived in Pipestone county March 17, 1900, in company with a brother and a sister, and at once located on the farm, then owned by his father, which has ever since been his home. Mr. Corrigan has made numerous substantial improvements on the farm and recently erected a commodious residence. He is an extensive breeder of high grade stock. He owns shares in the Farmers Elevator company of Airlie.

At Pipestone, on November 30, 1907, occurred the marriage of Hugh Corrigan to Cora Perdue, the daughter of Lee and Lealia Perdue, both of whom are living. She was born in Montgomery county, Virginia, November 12, 1881. Mr. and Mrs. Corrigan are members of the Pipestone Catholic church.

MAX T. G. MENZEL (1891), proprietor of a leading Pipestone drug store, has been engaged in business in that city since 1899, and for eight years prior to that time was in the employ of Robert Scarf as a registered pharmacist. He carries a full line of drugs, sundries, paints, oils and photographic supplies, and makes a specialty of his prescription department. He has prospered in his labors and owns considerable real estate.

A German by birth, our subject first saw the light of day in the hamlet of Giersdorf, province of Silesia, on May 18, 1870. He is the son of Ernest Menzel, a revenue officer in the employ of the German government. When Max was seven years of age the family moved to Hirschberg, in the same province, and there attended the common schools until his departure for America in 1884, at the age of fourteen. He first located at Odessa, Minnesota, and for a number of years was engaged in various occupations. In the fall of 1887 he went to Webster, South Dakota, where he familiarized himself with the drug business under the tutelage of G. D. Peterson. He later completed the course offered by the Minnesota Institute of Pharmacy and in 1891 settled in Pipestone. Mr. Menzel was elected city recorder in 1901. He holds membership in

the Masonic, Knights of Pythias, Odd Fellows and Modern Woodmen lodges.

Mr. Menzel was married in Pipestone on October 24, 1896, to Pearl Cogswell, a native of Marshalltown, Iowa. She was born November 2, 1876.

MATT J. CALDERWOOD (1900) is the junior member of the firm of Wright & Calderwood, dealers in farm machinery, pumps, windmills, etc., at Pipestone. He is a native of Scott county, Iowa, and was born near the city of Davenport September 24, 1858. His father, James Calderwood, is still living at the ripe old age of eighty-four and but recently returned from a visit to Ireland, the land of his birth. The mother of our subject is Henrietta Calderwood, who was born in New York state, of Scotch parentage.

Mr. Calderwood was educated in the district schools and grew to manhood on the Scott county farm of his father. He was twenty-four years of age when the family moved to Poweshiek county, in the same state. After assisting with the management of the home place for three years longer, our subject commenced farming on his own account and was so engaged until 1900, when he moved to Pipestone county. He established himself in the implement business at Ruth-ton, and two years later became a banker in that town. He moved to Pipestone to form his present partnership with Mr. Wright in 1905. Mr. Calderwood still retains possession of his Iowa farm. He is a member of the Blue Lodge, Commandery, Knights Templar and Eastern Star.

While residing in Poweshiek county, on March 2, 1886, Mr. Calderwood was joined in marriage to Minnie Whitcomb, a native of Brooklyn, Iowa.

FRED LOMKER (1883), of Altona township, was eleven years of age when he first located in Pipestone county. He was born in Marshall county, Kansas, October 6, 1872, the son of Henry and Christine (Koneke) Lomker, both natives of Germany. The former parent died April 24, 1902, while the mother died in 1891.

From Kansas the Lomker family moved to Pipestone county in 1883. They located on section 13, range 47, Altona, and on the home farm our subject resided until 1900. That year he went to Kenabec county, Minnesota, where he was engaged in farming for nine years. Mr. Lomker returned to Pipestone county in the summer of 1909, and since then has resided on the Altona farm he now conducts, which consists of 240 acres on sections 32 and 33. He owns eighty acres of land in Aitkin county, Minnesota.

During his residence in Kenabec county, at Mora, on June 15, 1903, Fred Lomker was united in marriage to Amelia Pottratz, a native of Pipestone county. She was born August 28, 1885. To this union the following three sons and one daughter have been born: Fred, born March 21, 1904; Robert, born October 6, 1905; Clara, born April 21, 1907; and Leonard, born August 28, 1909. Mr. and Mrs. Lomker are members of the German Lutheran church.

SELAH S. KING (1888), the first and present postmaster of Jasper and the editor of the Jasper Journal, has in the true sense of the word grown up with the town. In the spring of 1888, from which he dates his residence in Jasper, the only visible evidences of a town were the stakes which marked the townsite. He was among the first to build and lay the foundation for Jasper's future prosperity. From the start he has been one of the instrumental agencies in the promotion of every public enterprise and today is one of Jasper's most esteemed and popular citizens.

Near Whitewater, Walworth county, Wisconsin, Selah S. King was born October 15, 1864. At the age of three he accompanied his parents to Jackson county, Minnesota, of which his father is one of the pioneer settlers and influential men of affairs. Our subject lived on the old homestead in Wisconsin township, Jackson county, until 1873, when the family moved to the village of Jackson, where the father, William V. King, assumed his duties as county auditor, to which office he had been elected the same year. In Jackson Selah secured his education and grew to

manhood. In the spring of 1885 he left home and went to Pipestone, where he received his first taste of printer's ink in the office of the Republican, now defunct. At the end of a year he moved to Elkton, South Dakota, and for the two succeeding years worked on the Elkton Record.

In 1888 he was on the ground at Jasper. In a little building erected in hurry-up time, the Journal was launched on its successful and useful career. The first issue was dated July 25, 1888, and from that day to this it has continued under the same management, an unusual record in country journalism. The paper is a five column quarto. Mr. King received his appointment as postmaster of Jasper during the summer of 1888. He served four years under the appointment. He was again appointed in 1897 and has held the office continuously since that date. At different times he has held offices of trust in the administration of his village and school district.

S. S. King is the son of William V. and Antonette (Porter) King, old and respected residents of Jackson. William V. King was born in Oldham, England, on September 26, 1831. He came to America with his parents four years later. For a while the family home was near Utica, New York; then a move was made to Walworth county, Wisconsin, where Mr. King was married and lived until his thirtieth year. He is a veteran of the civil war, having served as first sergeant in the Forty-third Wisconsin volunteer infantry. At the close of the war, Mr. King took up a residence in Austin, Minnesota, where he resided until the spring of the following year, 1866, when he located in Jackson county as one of its pioneers. He homesteaded a quarter section in Wisconsin township. During thirty-one years of his residence in Jackson county Mr. King has held county office—a record held by no other man in that county. He has served his county as judge of probate, superintendent of schools, county attorney and auditor, having held the last mentioned office twenty-one years.

Selah S. King of this sketch was married October 19, 1898, at Flandreau, South Dakota, to Carrie Ramsdell, the daughter of William and Mary A. Ramsdell. Mrs.

King was born in Osage, Iowa, November 5, 1872. They are the parents of four children: Kenneth, born August 16, 1899; Beth A., born October 29, 1902, died October 10, 1910; Paul S., born August 14, 1908; and Eloise M., born April 21, 1910. Mr. King is a member of the Knights of Pythias, Masonic and Woodmen orders.

HENRY D. SIEBRING (1901), a representative business man of Holland, is a native of Brown county, Illinois. He is the oldest son in the family of eight children, the others being Rena, Claude, Richard, Severt, Morris and Mabel, who were born to Bartlet and Maggie (Neeland) Siebring. The latter is a resident of Brown county, Illinois.

Henry was born on the twenty-sixth day of August, 1876. He was brought up in the country and received a district school education. He was left fatherless at the age of sixteen, and for six years thereafter he assumed the management of the home farm. He left Brown county to move to George, Iowa, where he was employed for three years by Will Colman. In 1901 Mr. Siebring established his residence in Holland. In that year, together with E. J. Feldman, he bought the hardware and implement business of Mahoney Bros. Several years later Mr. Siebring purchased his partner's interest.

He now deals exclusively in farm implements, vehicles, pumps, engines, etc., having disposed of his hardware stock to A. T. Serrurier in November, 1909.

Our subject was married at George, Iowa, on March 12, 1902, to Helen Hedebrink, who was born in Adams county, Illinois, January 17, 1879. The first child of this union, Bartlett, was born April 18, 1905, and passed away in infancy. They have two living sons, Thomas, born October 9, 1909, and Bardlet, born October 1, 1906. Mr. and Mrs. Siebring are members of the Lutheran church.

ERICK J. ASLESEN (1900), one of the most prominent and influential citizens of the town of Jasper and a member of the firm of Aslesen Bros. & Rudd, the largest business house in the town, was born at

Brownsville, Minnesota, October 21, 1872.

At the age of five years Erick moved with his parents to the northeast corner of Minnehaha county, South Dakota, where his father homesteaded land adjoining the Minnesota line just west of the present site of Jasper. Our subject lived on that farm four years and then removed with his parents to Sioux Falls, where they remained seven years, returning at the end of that period to the old homestead. Erick was educated in the Sioux Falls high school. He returned to the farm with his parents and remained for some time. He then went to Minneapolis, where he engaged in business for three years with K. Aslesen. On leaving the Minnesota city, he went to Sioux Falls and entered the employ of his cousins, proprietors of the Bob & Nels clothing store.

At the outbreak of the Spanish-American war in May, 1898, Mr. Aslesen enlisted in the First South Dakota volunteer infantry, which saw service in the Philippines. He enlisted as a corporal but at the time of his discharge, October 15, 1899, he was first sergeant.

In March, 1900, Mr. Aslesen located in Jasper and in company with his cousins of Sioux Falls, before mentioned, he established the clothing business which was known under the firm name of E. J. Aslesen & Co. Two years later he bought out his partners and the business was changed to that of general merchandise and clothing. In the expansion of the business Mr. Aslesen took as partners his brother, William C. Aslesen, and John Rudd, and the firm is composed of the same partners today, doing business as Aslesen Bros. & Rudd. The firm owns two stores, one confined entirely to general merchandise and the other to the exclusive housing of the clothing department—the building in which Erick originally began the business.

Erick Aslesen is the son of Christ Aslesen, a native of Norway who came to this country in 1844 and first settled at Spring Grove, and later removed to Lansing, Iowa, where he married Sigrid Ellefson, the mother of our subject. She is also a native of Norway, but came to America when five weeks old. The young couple made their first home at Browns-



S. S. KING

Postmaster of Jasper and Publisher of the
Jasper Journal.



E. J. ASLESEN

A Jasper Merchant, Member of the Firm
of Aslesen Bros. & Rudd.



H. D. SIEBRING AND FAMILY

Mr. Siebring is the Proprietor of an Implement Business at Holland.

ville, Minnesota, where Mr. Aslesen engaged in the mercantile business in company with the well-known church worker, Iver Larson, of Decorah, Iowa. Imbued with all the characteristics of the hardy, courageous pioneer, in 1877 Mr. Aslesen moved with his little family to the new and unsettled Minnehaha county, South Dakota. He proved up on a homestead and then moved to Sioux Falls, where he was engaged in the mercantile business for seven years. Returning to the farm soon after disposing of his business, he became interested in the development of the new town of Jasper. That was before the railroad had been pushed through to that point. He bought land and platted the section that is now known as West Jasper. In 1899 Mr. Aslesen took up his residence in the town, which is his home at the present time. He engages in farming land he owns adjoining the town.

Erick J. Aslesen was married October 9, 1907, to Selma Tower, who was born in Pipestone county July 13, 1886, and who is the daughter of W. A. Tower. One daughter, Gertrude, was born to this union, December 15, 1908. Mr. Aslesen has from the very earliest taken a deep and active interest in the civic affairs and welfare of his home town. He is a member of the village council and of the school board. He is affiliated with the K. P., A. O. U. W. and M. W. A. lodges.

ARTHUR A. BAKER (1901) has been a resident of Osborne township for the past ten years and is one of that precinct's successful farmers and stock raisers. His finely improved farm of 320 acres comprises the southeast quarter of section 9 and the southwest quarter of section 8. He is a native of Holland, and in that country he was educated and spent the first eighteen years of his life. He is the son of a Dutch farmer and laborer, William Baker, and of Artie (Wesshaus) Baker, and was born on December 23, 1852.

The Baker family immigrated to America in 1870 and the first year resided in New Jersey. Marion county, Iowa, was the next home, and there Arthur commenced his agricultural career. He worked out for ten years and then rented

land in Nebraska, which he farmed eleven years. Then he farmed in Ringgold and Osceola counties, Iowa, coming from the last named county in 1901 to Pipestone county. He farmed rented land in Osborne township until 1907, when he came into possession of his present property. Mr. Baker was a director of school district No. 44 four years. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator company of Edgerton. With his family he belongs to the Christian Reformed church.

Arthur A. Baker was married in Marion county, Iowa, December 23, 1875, to Elizabeth Beerman, also a native of Holland. She was born March 20, 1855, the daughter of Hessel and Lilly Beerman. The following seven children have been born to this union: Etta, born October 30, 1877; Hessel, born April 1, 1879; Lilly, born January 15, 1881; William, born May 3, 1883; John, born August 31, 1886; Anna, born October 14, 1888; and Henry, born October 6, 1891.

ROBERT F. WRIGHT (1903), a Pipestone dealer in farm implements in partnership with M. J. Calderwood, is a native of Halifax, Nova Scotia, where he was born August 16, 1867. He is the son of Robert and Catherine Wright, both natives of Scotland. The father died in Halifax the year following the birth of our subject, and his mother passed away in Iowa in 1907. There are seven living children in the Wright family, as follows: Nicholas H., of Brooklyn, Iowa; Nelle (Mrs. A. Ricker), of Los Angeles, California; Maggie (Mrs. G. H. McMurray), of Grinnell, Iowa; Charles, of Brooklyn; John, Belle, of Los Angeles; and Robert of this sketch.

During the infancy of Robert, following the death of his father, the family moved to the United States and for a year and one-half resided in New York City. They then went to Brooklyn, Poweshiek county, Iowa, and there until he was of age Robert made his home on the farm of an uncle, William Deacons. Arriving at manhood, Mr. Wright commenced farming for himself and later purchased real estate in Poweshiek county, which he still owns and which he farmed until moving to

Pipestone in 1903. The following year, in company with Mr. Calderwood, he bought the implement business of the Evans Implement company, on Frances and Centennial streets, where he has since been located. Mr. Wright is now serving his first term as a member of the Pipestone city council.

Our subject was married at Brooklyn, Iowa, on September 2, 1891, to Carrie Calderwood. To these parents have been born the following four children: William, Catherine, Cameron and Dalton. Mr. Wright is a Mason, holding membership in the Blue Lodge and the Order Eastern Star.

SAMUEL QUAM (1910), a Fountain Prairie township farmer and stock raiser of recent settlement, moved to Pipestone county from Iowa during the spring of 1910 and bought the northwest quarter of section 8, a finely improved farm. He makes a specialty of raising standard bred horses.

In Stavanger, Norway, on November 30, 1865, occurred the birth of the subject of this biography. He is the son of Ole and Enga (Tan) Quam, who were small farmers in that Norwegian province. Samuel was left motherless at the age of twelve, and four years later Ole Quam sold out his interests in the northern country and with his family immigrated to America in 1881. The family settled in Marshall county, Iowa, on a farm purchased by the father, and it was there that our subject grew to manhood and completed his education. In 1893 Mr. Quam rented land and commenced his career as an independent farmer. He later bought an eighty acre farm, which he disposed of on moving to Pipestone county as already noted. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and the Maccabee lodge.

Samuel Quam has been twice married. He returned to Norway to secure his first bride, Jennie Quam, who was born July 25, 1869, and to whom he was married on February 11, 1893. Mr. and Mrs. Quam journeyed to America the following spring and established a residence in Marshall county, Iowa, where she died October 15, 1900. Two children were born to this

union: John R., born October 28, 1896, and Ida O., born June 4, 1899. In Marshall county, on June 16, 1902, our subject was joined in wedlock to Enga Larson, who was born in Stavanger, Norway, January 30, 1876, the daughter of Torkuld and Allette (Christopher) Larson. Mr. and Mrs. Quam are parents of the following named children: Theodore O., born March 9, 1903; George, born October 9, 1904; Selma, born March 22, 1907; and Otto, born June 17, 1910.

GEORGE A. MILLER (1879) has enjoyed the longest continual residence in Woodstock of any person now living in the village. He has lived and been engaged in blacksmithing there for the past twenty-seven years, or since 1884. His residence in the county commenced five years prior to that date. A Pennsylvanian by birth, our subject was born in Crawford county on the sixth of January, 1851, the son of Abner and Adaline Miller, natives of Maine and Pennsylvania, respectively.

Five years after his birth George accompanied his parents in their removal to the west. The family located in Winnebago county, Wisconsin, where they remained until the fall of 1867, becoming at that time residents of Oronoco, Olmsted county, Minnesota. There George A. Miller learned the trade of blacksmith, a line of work he followed in connection with farming in Dodge county from 1873 until the fall of 1879, when he moved to Pipestone county. He filed a homestead claim to the southwest quarter of section 4, Burke township, and lived there five years prior to entering upon his business career in Woodstock. He shared in all the early day hardships and can recall more than one trying experience in the dreaded prairie blizzards. In Burke township Mr. Miller served on the township and school boards, and for seven years he was Woodstock's efficient village treasurer.

The marriage of George A. Miller to Eliza White was solemnized in Oronoco, Olmsted county, in 1872. Mrs. Miller is a native of the Buckeye state. Five children have been born to this union, but one son, Elmer, is dead. The remaining

members of the family are Charles S., of Woodstock; Edna May, Elena (Mrs. H. S. Alexander), of St. Paul; and Nellie. Our subject holds membership in the A. F. & A. M. and A. O. U. W. lodges of Woodstock.

DR. JOHN E. SCHAPLER (1898), dentist of Pipestone, was born in Brooklyn, Poweshiek county, Iowa, the eleventh of December, 1886. He attended the public schools of that place until thirteen years of age, when he moved to Pipestone with his parents. He was one of a class of twenty girls and three boys that was graduated from the Pipestone high school in 1905. In the fall of that year he entered the college of dentistry of the university of Minnesota, from which he was granted his diploma in June, 1908. The same month Dr. Schapler opened an office in the Max Brown building, where he has since been engaged in the practice of his profession. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Odd Fellows.

Dr. Schapler is the son of Louis and Nellie M. (Wood) Schapler, of Pipestone. His father, a native of Northern Germany, came to this country at the age of eighteen and for a number of years was employed at his trade of painter in Michigan City, Indiana. He was next located in Rockford, Illinois, and then moved to Poweshiek county, Iowa, where he was married and lived until moving his family to Pipestone in 1898. Besides our subject Louis and Nellie Schapler have two other living sons: Harry F., born December 3, 1888, and Freddie L., born March 13, 1899. One son, Frank, died in 1891, at the age of two years.

At St. Paul, Minnesota, on September 20, 1910, Dr. Schapler was united in marriage to Alma Gaither, who was born in the capital city June 30, 1891. She is the daughter of John and Allie C. (Holmes) Gaither, former residents of Pipestone.

SAMUEL EVEN (1893), until lately a resident of Altona township, first saw the light of day in the town of Pekin, Illinois, on March 23, 1874. Both his father and mother, Harm Even and Stena (Frees)

Even, are natives of Germany and now reside in Pipestone.

Samuel lived only a year in the town of his birth. With the rest of the family he moved to Grundy county, Iowa, where he was destined to reside eighteen years. He was brought up on a farm and educated in the district schools of Grundy county. Harm Even, the father, bought land in Pipestone county, the southeast quarter of section 30, Altona, and moved thereon with his family in 1893. Our subject resided on the home farm until 1898, when he engaged in farming on his own account in Cottonwood county for a year. For the next three years he followed the same occupation in Sweet township and then located in Pipestone, where he was for some time engaged in teaming. Mr. Even once more became a tiller of the soil, renting and conducting the home place until the spring of 1911. Since September, 1910, he has managed the farmers' elevator at Ward, South Dakota. Mr. Even is a member of the Baptist church of Cazenovia.

At Bingham Lake, Cottonwood county, on September 8, 1898, the subject of this biography was married to Amelia Balsukat, a native of Germany. She was born December 12, 1879, and came to the United States at the age of twelve years. Mr. and Mrs. Even are the parents of three children: Harry, born July 10, 1899; Ida, born October 1, 1901; and John, born August 19, 1904.

GUSTAV FRIEDRICH (1899), the proprietor of one of Jasper's most enterprising and successful business establishments, is a German by birth. The son of Carl and Amilie (Laemmrich) Friedrich, both deceased, he was born in Saxony on May 4, 1859. As a boy he received a good education and then became an apprentice to learn the tinner's trade. After mastering his trade, he worked for awhile in Berlin and other cities in the fatherland.

Determining to cast his fortune in the land beyond the sea, he immigrated in 1884 to the United States. His first home was in Menasha, Wisconsin, where he secured employment at his trade in a hardware store. His next location was at Spencer, Wisconsin, where for three years

he plied his craft. Sauk Rapids, Minnesota, next became his home. For thirteen years he clerked and worked as a tinner in a hardware store. Seeking a location to engage in business for himself, his choice fell upon Jasper.

In 1899 Mr. Friedrich came to the village and bought the hardware business of A. P. Smith, of which he is at the present time proprietor. Prosperity as the fruit of labor has been his. He owns the handsome stone building which houses his business. In 1910 he found it necessary to build on an addition, 25x80 feet, to accommodate the rapidly growing trade. He has since added a complete line of furniture.

Mr. Friedrich was united in marriage in Spencer, Wisconsin, on June 8, 1885, to Laura Hendel, also a native of Germany. They have five children: Otto, Frieda, Carl, Martha and Elsie. In 1903 Mr. Friedrich held the office of village recorder, and he is now a member of the village council. He is a member of the German Lutheran church.

FOREST H. MORLEY (1908) farms the north half of the northwest quarter of section 5, Gray township. He owns that land and also the southwest quarter of section 32, Grange. Mr. Morley is the son of Samuel and Lucy (Noble) Morley, natives of Massachusetts and early day settlers of Ogle county, Illinois. It was there that Forest was born May 14, 1853.

The year following that event the family became residents of Fayette county, Iowa, where our subject was reared on a farm and educated in the district schools. Following the death of his father in 1871, with his brother, Frank, he rented the home farm and conducted it for a year. Mr. Morley then heeded a beckon from the west. For twelve years he followed agricultural pursuits in California, was in Nebraska three years, and then went to Illinois, where he remained until 1908, the date of his advent to Pipestone county. At that time he bought the farm upon which he now lives. He owns stock in the Grange Rural Telephone company of Pipestone and is a member of the I. O. O. F. lodge.

In Lincoln county, Nebraska, September 28, 1890, the subject of this biography was

joined in marriage to Jane Ewing, who was born in La Salle, Illinois, January 11, 1858. She is the daughter of Samuel and Margaret (Simpson) Ewing, both natives of Scotland. Two children, Lucy and Claude, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Morley.

OLE E. RANHEIM (1898) has been a tiller of the soil in both Rock and Pipestone counties. He was born in Romsdal, Norway, January 19, 1871, the son of Erick O. and Guri (Boksasp) Ranheim. Ole was educated in the common schools of his native land and resided on the home farm until twenty-three years of age, when he crossed the Atlantic to make settlement in America. He journeyed direct to Minnesota and worked the first summer at farm labor near Dawson, Lac qui Parle county. During the winter seasons for several years he was employed in the Minneapolis saw mills and in the northern pineries. After his marriage Mr. Ranheim moved to Rock county and farmed in Martin township until the fall of 1910, when he settled on his present farm in Rock township, Pipestone county, the northwest quarter of section 15. He bought that land in 1909.

The subject of this sketch was married at Minneapolis November 13, 1897, to Anna Thompson, whose birth occurred in Hardanger, Norway, February 16, 1869. Seven sons have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Ranheim, as follows: Engval, Melvin, Glenn, Arthur, Clifford, Arnold and Elmer. The family are members of the United Norwegian Lutheran church.

JOHN FRAHM (1892), landlord of the Sherman hotel, Pipestone, is a native German. He was born May 28, 1860, the son of Jurgen and Anna Frahm, who lived and died in the land of the kaiser. Besides our subject they were the parents of five other children, who are Peter, of Clinton county, Iowa; Peter, of Dakota; Mary, of California; Catherine and Claus, of Germany.

John passed the first nineteen years of his life in the land of his birth. On coming to America in 1879, he located in Clinton county, Iowa, whence he moved after a two years' residence to Tama county, in the same state. He farmed in Tama county

eleven years, or until 1892, when he made settlement in the new town of Trosky, Pipestone county. During Cleveland's second administration Mr. Frahm was Trosky's postmaster, and for a number of years after retiring from that office he conducted the hotel in that village. From Trosky our subject moved to Pipestone to engage in the real estate business, which he did successfully until 1906. Since that date Mr. Frahm has devoted his attention to the care of the traveling public. He is the possessor of some choice Pipestone county real estate, owning the east half of section 19, Elmer township, and a part interest in the south half of section 9, Gray.

The marriage of John Frahm to Margaret Freiberg, also a native of Germany, occurred in Tama county, Iowa, April 21, 1881. The following named eleven children have been born to these parents: George, Henry, Katie, Christina, Mary, John, Maggie, Peter, Lilly, Frank and Edmond. With the exception of Henry Frahm, who lives in North Dakota, all the children live at home.

TAD A. BAILEY (1900), the junior member of the firm of Payne & Bailey, the only exclusive fire and tornado insurance firm in the city of Pipestone, was born in Carroll, Iowa, July 19, 1871. He is one in a family of five children, the others being Lizzie, Elma, Lenn, Charles (deceased) and Fred L. The father of our subject was C. C. Bailey, a native of New York, who as a young man came west. He was graduated from Oberlin college, Ohio, and was a practicing attorney at Carroll, Iowa, where his death occurred in 1879. He was married to Delia L. Squires, a native of Vermont. She lived until 1895.

At the age of ten years Tad moved to Grinnell, Iowa, where he was educated in the high school and grew to manhood. He clerked in stores at Brooklyn and Perry, Iowa, then went to Springfield, Illinois, where for six years he was employed as clerk in a patent attorney's office. On account of failing health Mr. Bailey in 1900 sought the clime of Pipestone county. He became associated with F. M. Payne in the insurance business and after four years of service was admitted as a partner in the firm.

In 1905 our subject left Pipestone and was gone several years. He was located at his home town of Grinnell for a year, was in Minneapolis for a like period, and then returned to Pipestone to enter the employ of the Harrington Grain company. When this company removed to Sioux Falls Mr. Bailey was transferred to that point. In July, 1910, he once more took up his residence in Pipestone and resumed his partnership with Mr. Payne. Mr. Bailey was treasurer of Pipestone during the years 1904 and 1905. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Elks and the Knights of Pythias.

ANDREW CARLSON (1905) has since 1905 owned and farmed the southwest quarter of section 19, Sweet township. He was born in the adjacent county of Moody, South Dakota, September 21, 1876, the son of Atle and Eli (Lunde) Carlson, both natives of Norway. Andrew passed the first twenty-five years of his life on his father's Moody county homestead; then he rented land and commenced farming on his own account, being so engaged in Moody county until buying his present Pipestone county farm. Mr. Carlson is a director of school district No. 8.

The marriage of our subject to Lena Gunwall occurred at Luverne. Mrs. Carlson is also a native of Moody county and is the daughter of Ole and Gunild Gunwall. The following four sons and two daughters have been born to this union: Leonard, born April 8, 1903; Reuben, born August 23, 1905; Eddie, born January 28, 1908; William, born November 16, 1909; Gladys, born May 1, 1904; and Myrtle, born August 21, 1907.

JULIUS P. PETERSON (1894) is a member of one of the pioneer business firms of Jasper, G. Peterson & Sons, dealers in general merchandise. The business was founded by Gilbert Peterson, the father of the subject of this sketch. The elder Mr. Peterson was born in Christiania, Norway, and came to the United States when a youth. He first located at Lansing, Iowa, from which place he moved to Hesper, Iowa. During his residence there he took as his wife, Mary Lien, also

a native of Norway. Their first home was at Cresco, Iowa, where Mr. Peterson worked as a shoe repairer. In the early seventies the Petersons became residents of Minnesota, settling first at Leroy, from which place, in 1876, they moved to Granger. It was from there that they came to Jasper in 1894, Mr. Peterson setting up in the shoe business.

Julius Peterson is a native Minnesotan, having been born May 27, 1875, at Leroy. It was when he was but one year old that the family moved to Granger, and it was in that village that Julius received his education and grew to manhood.

He came to Jasper in 1894 with his family, and for the first three or four years was employed as a clerk in one of the general stores. In 1898 he entered into partnership with his father in the management of the shoe business before mentioned. At first an exclusive shoe store, other lines were added until the firm became dealers in general merchandise. He is in charge of the business, his father having retired from active work in the firm several years ago, though he continues to reside in Jasper. In 1903 his brother, Gus M. Peterson, was taken into the firm.

Mr. Peterson was married in Jasper on September 20, 1900, to Josie LeSuer, who was born at Canby, Minnesota, on March 9, 1882. She is the daughter of E. P. LeSuer, a former proprietor of the LeSuer hotel, who died in June, 1910. Mr. Peterson holds membership in the Knights of Pythias and M. W. A. lodges.

HANS L. PETERSEN (1906). Since March, 1911, the subject of this sketch has farmed 260 acres of land just over the line in Lincoln county. He engages extensively in dairying and the breeding of high grade stock. Mr. Petersen was for a number of years prior to his late removal a well-known agriculturist of Aetna township.

Hans L. Petersen was born in the land of the Danes August 10, 1874, the son of Peter Jacobson, a farmer, and Mary (Christensen) Jacobson. Both parents lived and died in Denmark. That country was his home until 1891, the

year he commenced his career in Uncle Sam's domain. He spent nine years as a farm laborer in the Iowa counties of Blackhawk and Grundy, following which he was similarly engaged for a year and a half in Tennessee. Mr. Petersen moved to Minnesota in 1900 and commenced farming for himself in Lincoln county. Six years later he became a resident and farmer of Aetna township, Pipestone county, and then returned to Lincoln county, as already noted. He is a member of the Danish Lutheran church of Ruthton.

Our subject was married in Lincoln county May 4, 1900, to Annie Olson, also a native of Denmark. She was born May 30, 1874. They are the parents of three sons and one daughter, named as follows: Albert, born September 15, 1901; Olof, born August 20, 1903; Mary, born March 30, 1907; and Frederick, born April 22, 1910.

CHARLES J. SIGMOND (1899), veterinary surgeon of Pipestone, was born in Cook county, Illinois, on the third of February, 1867. His father, Charles Sigmond, was born in Lorraine, Germany, which at the time was French territory. He came as a boy to the United States and settled in Cook county, Illinois, his home until called by death in June, 1869. Mr. Sigmond, Sr., served for three years and ten months in the civil war with company A, Sixteenth Illinois regiment. He married Louisa Goebel, a native of Cook county. To these parents were born three children: Emma (Mrs. Frank Hawkins), of Aberdeen, South Dakota; Charles J., of this sketch; and George A., of Minneapolis. Frank Horton, of Minneapolis, is a half-brother of our subject.

Charles was not yet three years of age when he was left fatherless. Several years later the family moved to Minnesota, residing two years in Stearns county, and then went to Hennepin county. He finished his grammar school education in Minneapolis and for a number of years was employed in drug stores of that city. He was graduated from the Ontario Veterinary college of Toronto in March, 1892. Immediately thereafter he located in Duluth for the practice of his profession. A

year later he moved to Austin, Minnesota, and remained there until 1899, when he established his present residence in Pipestone.

Dr. Sigmond was united in marriage at Mapleton, Blue Earth county, on November 29, 1898, to Anna L. Brooks, a native of Waseca county. Our subject holds membership in the Masonic, Yeomen and Modern Brotherhood of America.

NICK BORNHOFT (1900) has prospered since settling in Pipestone county eleven years ago and now is the owner of a substantially improved farm, the north half of section 17, Elmer township. He built a large barn in 1910 and he is responsible for most of the other improvements on the place. He raises stock quite extensively.

A native of Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, Nick Bornhoft was born October 15, 1867. His father, John Bornhoft, a weaver by trade, died in the old country some twenty years ago. He was two years old when his mother, Martha Bornhoft, died. Nick was brought up and educated in the town of Gammendorf. In 1883, at the age of fifteen years, he undertook the long journey to America. For a year he was employed at farm labor near Hammond, Indiana, and was similarly engaged two years in Scott county, Iowa. Cass county, in the same state, was then made his home, where he resided until 1900. He worked out five years, then rented land and commenced his career as an independent farmer. In the year mentioned he established his residence in Pipestone county. Our subject is a member of the M. W. A. and I. O. O. F. lodges of Trosky.

At Atlantic, Cass county, Iowa, on November 29, 1889, Nick Bornhoft was joined in wedlock to Louisa Duwe, who was born in that county November 1, 1873. A son and a daughter have been born to these parents: Arnold, born May 22, 1897; and Martha, born January 17, 1899.

AUGUST JOHANNSSEN (1888), Sweet township farmer, is a native of Pipestone county. He was born June 23, 1888, on the southeast quarter of section 31, Sweet township, land which his father, Peter

Johannsen, bought in an early day. Peter Johannsen and his wife, Tinie (Dahms) Johannsen, came originally from Germany. Besides August, of this sketch, they are the parents of another son, William, and two daughters, Minnie (Mrs. Gus. Boock) and Eda.

Our subject was educated in the district schools and until 1908 assisted with the cultivation of the home farm. In the year mentioned he rented the southwest quarter of section 32, Sweet, which he now conducts. Mr. Johannsen raises lots of cattle, hogs and sheep.

August Johannsen was married to Maud C. Jessen, a native of Clinton county, Iowa.

ALEXANDER H. SLAGG (1900), of Pipestone, is the proprietor of the Cash department store in that city, a concern which opened for business May 14, 1910, and which is headquarters for a complete stock of general merchandise. Mr. Slagg has been engaged in business in Pipestone since 1900. That year he established the "Fair" store, which he conducted alone for two years and then admitted W. P. Russel to partnership. The "Fair" was under the control of Slagg & Russel eight years and was then sold.

Dane county, Wisconsin, is the place of Mr. Slagg's nativity. He was born December 2, 1863, the son of John and Hannah (Brelsford) Slagg, both of English parentage. In early childhood John Slagg and Hannah Brelsford accompanied their parents to America, the families locating in Albion township, Dane county, Wisconsin, and there they grew up, were married, and established a home. Of the six children born to this union Alexander is next to the youngest. Four other sons and one daughter comprise the family. They are Edward, Joseph, Albert, Charles and Anna.

At the age of twenty years Alexander Slagg went to the city of Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, where he completed a high school education, and then for ten years was in the employ of the Milwaukee Casket company as traveling salesman. On retiring from a career as "knight of the grip," Mr. Slagg engaged in the grocery and bakery business at Fort Atkinson. He conducted a store for three years, and on

selling out moved to Pipestone and became a merchant of that city.

While residing at Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, on June 25, 1890, Alexander H. Slagg was married to Ida M. Robinson, a native of Butler county, Iowa. They have two daughters: Ruth, born October 4, 1893, and Mildred, born January 11, 1903. Our subject is a Mason and Modern Woodman.

HARRY A. GANO (1898), of Pipestone, the proprietor of Gano's up-to-date restaurant and cafe, is a native of Buffalo, New York. He is the oldest of four sons born to John and Lena Gano, natives, respectively, of New York and Ohio, and now residents of Pana, Illinois. Harry was born January 13, 1876. George, the second son, died in May, 1904, and the two youngest are named John and Edward.

Our subject was two years of age when he moved with his parents to Cleveland, Ohio, and from that city the family removed successively to Greencastle, Indiana; Louisville, Kentucky; St. Louis, Missouri; and Springfield and Quincy, Illinois. In the last named city Harry was educated and passed his youth. At the age of nineteen he severed home ties and journeyed to the far west, where for a time he was employed in the smelters of the mining region; then for two years was a rancher in Colorado. His next move was to Minneapolis, where he mastered the carpenter's trade, and then entered the employ of the contracting and building firm of McCuen & Christianson.

Mr. Gano located in Pipestone in 1898, making that city his headquarters while engaged in elevator construction and repair work for McCuen & Christianson in a territory comprising the states of Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota and the Dakotas. He was thus employed five or six years, then became a member of the Pipestone police force and did night duty for three years. In April, 1909, Mr. Gano bought the Douglas restaurant, whose business at that time was badly run down. The new proprietor remodeled the place and has since built up an excellent patronage. In 1906 Mr. Gano served as chief of the Pipestone fire department. He holds membership in the M. W. A. and I. O. O. F. lodges.

In Pipestone, on May 18, 1902, Harry A. Gano was married to Myrtle Hitchcox, the daughter of County Treasurer J. Hitchcox, a pioneer of the county. They are the parents of two children: Ray, born December 2, 1903, and Mildred, born May 23, 1906.

EDWIN A. MILLIS (1897), now of Benet, Colorado, was for thirteen years prior to his removal in September, 1910, a well-known resident of Osborne township. He was born in Fenton township, Murray county, on October 6, 1882, and is the son of Frank and Fronia (Nichols) Millis.

Our subject lived in and attended the district schools of his native township until attaining the age of fifteen years, when he moved with his grandparents to Pipestone county and lived with them on a farm within the corporate limits of the village of Edgerton until the spring of 1910. He finished his schooling in the Edgerton schools and assisted his grandfather with the work of the farm until 1908. Then Edwin rented the place and conducted it until moving to land he had bought, the west half of the northwest quarter of section 22, Osborne township. He went to Colorado in the fall of 1910 to homestead land and now lives there.

Edwin A. Millis was married in Edgerton February 19, 1909, to Mildred Irene Golden, the daughter of John and Ella Golden, both deceased. Mrs. Millis was born in Zanesville, Ohio, July 20, 1890. A son, Albert Anson, was born to these parents on March 6, 1910. On the removal of the family to Colorado they were accompanied by an uncle, Anson Proctor Nichols.

The parents of our subject's mother, Clark Proctor Nichols and wife, with whom he made his home for many years, were among the pioneer settlers of Fenton township, Murray county. They homesteaded land there in 1879. Both died in Edgerton, but not until both had attained the ripe old age of eighty-seven years.

LOUIS NILSON (1887) is the manager of the Rothschild Grain company's elevator at Trosky. He enjoys the distinction of

having been the second child born in that village, his nativity occurring April 18, 1887. Lloyd Ahlan, who takes precedence over Louis as a claimant for first honor in this respect, was born but fifteen days previous.

Our subject is the son of Arne and Marie (Larson) Nilson, both natives of Norway, who came to this country during the early eighties. They were on the ground when the town of Trosky was founded, the father setting up in the blacksmithing business, in which he was engaged up to the time of his death in 1897. His wife is now living at Jasper.

Louis Nilson commenced his career as a fireman on the Great Northern railroad. He was engaged in a similar capacity with the Northwestern road for about a year. In 1907 he accepted his present position with the Rothschilds and has since managed that firm's interests in Trosky. For the past two years he has acceptably filled the office of village assessor. He is connected with the M. W. A. and A. O. U. W. lodges.

Mr. Nilson was married at Pipestone in October, 1907, to Ella L. French, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles French, of Trosky. Mrs. Nilson was born at Ireton, Iowa, July 24, 1887. One son, Ivan Leroy, was born to these parents, May 8, 1909.

WILLIAM C. EVARTS (1887), of Edgerton, manager of the farmers' elevator at that place, settled in Pipestone county in 1887 and for many years was a well known Elmer township farmer. He is the eldest of five living children born to Elbert O. and Mary T. Evarts, both of whom are deceased. Our subject has four sisters, whose names are May, Alma, Bessie and Harriett.

In Columbia county, Wisconsin, on June 14, 1858, occurred the birth of William C. Evarts of this biography. In that county he was educated and grew to manhood. Arriving at man's estate, he first went to Minnesota and farmed for two years in Blue Earth county. He then returned to his old Wisconsin home and remained there until 1887, the date of his advent to Pipestone county. Mr. Evarts at that time bought the homestead right

to the southeast quarter of section 34, Elmer township, which farm he improved and on which he made his home until February, 1907, when he moved to Edgerton to reside. He served for three years as a member of the town board of Elmer.

On September 29, 1881, in the town of Columbus, Wisconsin, our subject was united in marriage to Mary A. Wade, a native of Moundville, Marquette county. Three children have been born to this union. They are Elbert A., deceased, born September 5, 1882; Guy S., born September 21, 1885; and Martha T., born April 18, 1888.

J. WILLIAM ALEXANDER (1900), senior partner in the real estate and insurance firm of the Alexander Land company, has been a resident of the county since 1900. He is one in a family of five sons and three daughters born to L. W. and Frances (McKenna) Alexander, of Pipestone. The mother is a native of Ohio.

The father of our subject, L. W. Alexander, was born in Benton county, Arkansas, October 20, 1844, and was married to Frances McKenna in Clinton county, Iowa, on January 3, 1870. Mr. Alexander farmed in Blackhawk county, Iowa, for twenty-three years prior to moving to Pipestone county in 1900. He farmed for five years in Elmer township, was for a year on the old Stevens farm adjoining Pipestone, and since has been a resident of the city and associated with his son in business. L. W. Alexander is a veteran of the civil war. He enlisted in company F, Seventy-fourth Illinois infantry, on August 5, 1862, and served in the union army three years and one month under Generals Buell, Sherman, Rosencrans and Grant. He was an active participant in the engagements at Stony River, Lookout Mountain, Perryville, Chickamauga, Kenesaw Mountain, Atlanta and Nashville. He received his discharge at Nashville in September, 1865, and then served for three months as a special messenger in Tennessee. Mr. Alexander is a prominent member of Simon Mix Post, G. A. R.

The subject of this biography, J. William Alexander, was born in Clinton county, Iowa, November 21, 1871. Six years later

he moved with his parents to Blackhawk county, in the same state, where he was educated and engaged in farming until moving to Pipestone county eleven years ago. After farming five years in Elmer township Mr. Alexander moved to Pipestone and became a member of the Allen Land company. After a year he bought the interests of Mr. Allen and formed a partnership with L. E. Ziegler, of Holland, and his father, L. W. Alexander, styling the association the Ziegler-Alexander Land company. Several years later the Alexanders took over the Ziegler interest and have since conducted the business in their own name. They write Globe and Old Colony insurance.

In Blackhawk county, Iowa, on April 12, 1899, our subject was married to Mary E. McCullion, a native of that Iowa county. Mr. and Mrs. Alexander have one son, Alphonsus C., born June 28, 1901.

HENRY HERMAN LANGE (1887), of Eden township, is a Pipestone county boy. He is the son of William and Louisa (Leumen) Lange, both natives of Wisconsin, and early settlers of Eden township, William Lange having homesteaded the southeast quarter of section 6. On that farm our subject was born March 15, 1887. Henry completed two years of study in the Pipestone high school. In 1907 he rented the home farm from his father and has since successfully conducted the same. Mr. and Mrs. Lange are members of the German Evangelical church of Pipestone.

At Pipestone, on March 16, 1910, Mr. Lange was united in marriage to Alwine Ludolph, who was born in Nebraska July 18, 1889. Mrs. Lange is the daughter of Christian and Caroline (Meyer) Ludolph, both natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Lange are the parents of one child, a baby girl born January 11, 1911.

HENRY HARDERS (1895), of Ruthton, is a native Iowan. He was born in Scott county November 8, 1880, the son of Henry and Catherine (Clausen) Harders, both of whom came to this country early in life from Germany. They were married in Scott county, Iowa, the family home for

many years. To these parents have been born three sons and one daughter, who besides our subject are Adolph, Herman and Amelia (Mrs. H. W. Meyers). Mr. and Mrs. Henry Harders, Sr., are now residents of Spokane, Washington.

When nine years of age our subject moved with his parents to Lyon county, Iowa, and six years later the family located in Pipestone county. After one year the Harders moved to a farm in Rock county and later went to Minnehaha county, South Dakota. Until he was twenty-three years old Henry assisted in the management of the home farm, then for three years farmed on his own account in Minnehaha county. Mr. Harders settled in Ruthton in 1906. He served as village marshal two years and for a time conducted a billiard hall and engaged in the livery business. Three years ago he entered the employ of S. Bertelsen, the Ruthton implement dealer, as salesman, a position he now holds. Mr. Harders has been chief of the Ruthton fire department since the year he became a resident of the town. He owns the building occupied by the billiard and pool hall.

The marriage of our subject to Serena Bertelsen, the daughter of S. Bertelsen, occurred in Ruthton in September, 1906. Mrs. Harders is a native of Denmark and came to America with her parents when an infant. Three children have been born to this union: Lanceworth, Kenneth and Goldie Leone. Mrs. Harders is a member of the Eastern Star and Royal Neighbors lodges.

JOHN PRIESTER (1903), farmer and stock raiser of Altona township, owns the southeast quarter of section 25 of that precinct. He also farms another eighty acres in the same section, land which he rents. The father of our subject, Matt Priester, was born in Germany April 14, 1846, and died in December, 1907. At the age of twenty years the elder Mr. Priester crossed the seas and made settlement in America. He first was located in Wisconsin and then in Iowa. He was by trade a cabinet maker and also engaged in farming. At Gottenberg, Iowa, Matt Priester married Elizabeth Backes, who died June 1, 1908. Also a native of Germany, she was

born October 21, 1849, and as a child came to this country with her parents.

January 6, 1877, is the date, and Delaware county, Iowa, the place where occurred the nativity of John Priester of this review. In early childhood he moved with his parents to Clayton county, Iowa, and two years later the Priesters located on a farm in Lyon county, Iowa, near Rock Rapids. John secured an education offered by the district schools of his home county. He assisted with the work on the farm until 1900, the year of his marriage. Following that event he became a Lyon county farmer and was so engaged until 1903, when his career in Pipestone county began. At that time he located on his present farm, then the property of his father, which he inherited.

In Lyon county, on June 6, 1900, Mr. Priester was married to Annie Wittrock, the daughter of Henry and Lizzie Wittrock, of Rock Rapids. Mrs. Priester was born near Davenport, Iowa, April 7, 1882. Mr. and Mrs. Priester are the parents of three children: Alice Edna, born March 30, 1902; Raymond, born September 23, 1903; and Herbert, born August 4, 1905. The family are members of the Catholic church of Pipestone.

WINFIELD M. BUCK (1904). One of the leading and most enterprising business institutions in the city of Pipestone is the wholesale produce buying firm of Buck Bros. & Co., of which the subject of this review has been the proprietor and general manager three years. Mr. Buck came to Pipestone in 1904 and formed the company which purchased the butter, egg and poultry business conducted by J. H. Nichols since the eighties, which had developed to large proportions. Fifty carloads of produce are now shipped annually from Pipestone by this company. Mr. Buck has a branch house at Watertown, South Dakota. His brother, W. H. Buck, who was connected with the Pipestone house until three years ago is now interested in plants of a similar nature at Madison and Huron, South Dakota.

The birth of Winfield M. Buck occurred in Ogle county, Illinois, March 13, 1867. When twelve years of age he moved with

his parents to Story county, Iowa, later to Mount Vernon, Illinois, then to South Dakota. In 1891 Mr. Buck engaged in the produce business at Spirit Lake, Iowa, and later established a house at Estherville, where he was located until moving to Pipestone seven years ago. Mr. Buck holds membership in the Blue Lodge and Chapter of the Masonic order and in the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

At Spirit Lake, Iowa, on May 3, 1893, our subject was joined in marriage to Cora M. Blanchard. To Mr. and Mrs. Buck have been born two daughters, Cleo E. and Bessie M.

HENRY MEYER, JR. (1892) is a young and enterprising farmer of Eden township. He is the fourth child in a family of seven children born to Henry and Mary (Meyer) Meyer, natives of Germany, who came to this country in 1882 and settled in Iowa county, Iowa. Following are the names of the other members of the family, of whom there are five sons and two daughters: Reaka, Minnie, William, Herman, George and Frank. During his residence in Iowa, which was divided between the towns of Luzerne and Belle Plaine, the father of our subject was employed as a section foreman.

Henry Meyer, Jr., was born in Iowa county April 3, 1883, and lived there until nine years of age, when the family moved to Pipestone county. Until 1902 the elder Mr. Meyer farmed rented land in Eden township; then he bought the northeast quarter of section 25, range 47, which our subject now rents and conducts.

E. J. FELDMAN (1903), banker of Trosky, was born at Foreston, Illinois, on the seventeenth of March, 1880. He is one of a family of seven children whose parents are John and Dena (Schilling) Feldman, residents of George, Iowa.

Two years after the birth of our subject the family moved to Grundy county, Iowa, where they resided until 1895, when another move was made, to Lyon county, in the same state. Mr. Feldman assisted his father with the work on the home farm in both locations and after completing the

course of the district schools, attended the Cedar Rapids Business college. A year later, in 1901, he accepted a position as stenographer in the George Savings Bank, of George, Iowa. He resigned to engage in the hardware business at Holland, Minnesota. On selling out in 1905, he located in Trosky, the same year buying the Bank of Trosky. Since the reorganization of that institution into a state bank he has discharged the duties of cashier.

Mr. Feldman was married at Holland on August 29, 1903, to Martha Zempke, whose birth occurred in Osceola county, Iowa, February 9, 1885. One son, Floyd M., was born to these parents August 13, 1904. Mr. Feldman has been the village recorder from the first year of his residence in Trosky and has been the school clerk for the past four years. He is treasurer of the Pipestone County Agricultural society. He is the noble grand of the local I. O. O. F. lodge and the clerk of the M. W. A. lodge.

The State Bank of Trosky is the successor to the Trosky Bank, which was established as a private institution by W. C. Briggs and Maurice Evans in 1902. In 1904 the bank was sold to J. C. Marshall & Son, and a year later E. J. Feldman came into possession of the business. The reorganization as a state bank took place in 1908. The bank does a general banking, real estate and loan business and is capitalized at \$10,000. The present officers are: President, Henry Ewoldt; vice president, Q. E. Keister; cashier, E. J. Feldman.

SAM L. HIRSCHY (1888), with his brother Charles, conducts the popular cigar store in Pipestone known as Hirschy's Smoke House. The two brothers are the only children of Louis and Maggie (Harrison) Hirschy, of Pipestone. Louis Hirschy is a native of Dayton, Ohio, and was one of the homesteaders of Fountain Prairie township, having come to the county in 1879. He has resided in Pipestone since 1888, and is there engaged in the lumber business. His wife, Maggie (Harrison) Hirschy, was born in Highgate, London, England.

In Lake Benton, Lincoln county, on January 22, 1886, the birth of Sam L. Hirschy of this review occurred. He was in his second year when the family moved to

Pipestone, which has since been his home. He was educated in the Pipestone high school, and then for five years was employed as bookkeeper by the Colman Lumber company. In 1908 he bought the George Tousley cigar store. To the original stock he has added a line of Edison phonographs and also caters to the devotees of billiards and pool. Mr. Hirschy is a member of the I. O. O. F. lodge, No. 89, of Pipestone, and the Elks, No. 262, of Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

DR. GEORGE D. RICE (1905) is associated with Dr. William J. Taylor, the pioneer physician of Pipestone county, in the practice of medicine at Pipestone. Dr. Rice is the son of a Nobles county pioneer, A. J. Rice, who was one of the earliest business men in the town of Adrian, and who is now a banker of Lismore. His mother is Mary (Hitchens) Rice.

The birth of our subject occurred at Adrian on the thirty-first day of August, 1880. After graduating from the high school at that place, he entered the medical department of the university of Minnesota, and while there served as an assistant in the medical dispensary. He received his medical degree with the class of 1903 and immediately thereafter was appointed an interne in St. Mary's hospital at Duluth. In 1904 Dr. Rice located at Albert Lea for the practice of his profession, but in the year following came to Pipestone to form his present partnership with Dr. Taylor. Dr. Rice is a Mason and a Modern Woodman, and in 1909 was the master of the Blue Lodge of Pipestone.

On August 28, 1907, Dr. Rice was united in marriage to Irma George, a native of Pipestone and the daughter of H. W. and Belle (Wickham) George, pioneer settlers of the county and now residents of Pegram, Idaho. Two daughters, Madeline and Margaret, have been born to these parents.

JOHN CAMPBELL (1900) owns and farms the southwest quarter of section 34, Rock township, upon which he has resided since 1900. He is extensively engaged in stock raising and has an especially large herd of Duroc-Jersey hogs. In Washington

county, Wisconsin, August 9, 1860, John was born. Owen and Agnes (Mallon) Campbell, both natives of Ireland, were his parents.

Our subject acquired a district school education and resided on the home farm until after his twentieth birthday. He then went to Brookings county, South Dakota, homesteaded land, improved the same, and made that his home for seven years. A portion of that period was spent as an employe of the railroad company. Mr. Campbell departed from South Dakota and went to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in 1887. He was for four years employed as a machinist in that city, then farmed for a time in that vicinity. We next find him in Mitchell county, Iowa, near Osage, where he farmed for seven years prior to making settlement in Pipestone county, on the farm before described. Mr. Campbell is prominently identified with all progressive movements in his community. He is a director of the Farmers Elevator company of Woodstock and a member of the village school board. He belongs to the Catholic church and to the Catholic Order of Foresters.

John Campbell was married in Washington county, Wisconsin, February 3, 1886, to Maggie Kenney, also a native of that county. She was born October 1, 1863, the daughter of Martin and Bridget (Larkin) Kenney, both of whom came originally from Ireland. To Mr. and Mrs. Campbell five children have been born, as follows: Agnes, Eugene, Florence, Walter and May.

ED. H. MANLEY (1890), Troy township farmer and stockraiser, is the son of Mike Manley, of Troy, a native of New York state, and of Ellen (Minnehan) Manley, of Irish birth. Mrs. Manley lived in Troy township until called by death in July, 1909. The birth of our subject occurred in New Richmond, Wisconsin, January 28, 1881.

The Manley family were residents of New Richmond until 1890, the year of settlement in Pipestone county. They resided four years in the village of Airlie, then successively on farms in Eden and Troy townships. Ed. lived with his parents on the home farm until 1906; then he rented the farm he has since conducted, the southwest quarter of section 19, Troy.

He raises stock quite extensively. Mr. Manley is a member of the Pipestone Catholic church and of the Modern Woodmen lodge at Cazenovia.

At Pipestone, on October 14, 1908, Ed. H. Manley was united in marriage to Katherine Borch, who was born in Hammond, Minnesota, the fifteenth of July, 1885. One child, Francis, was born to these parents, on July 15, 1909.

FRED SMITH (1909), a farmer of Gray township, was born in Hardin county, Iowa, the fifth of November, 1882. Before his fifth birthday the Smith family moved to Warren county, Iowa, and from there in 1898, to Lucas county, in the same state. Fred was educated in the district schools of those two counties. On becoming of age he married and farmed in Lucas county until 1909, when his career in Pipestone county began. He farmed the northwest quarter of section 34, Grange, until moving to his present location, the west half of section 27, Gray, in March, 1911.

Both William and Mary (Milkner) Smith, the parents of our subject, were born in Germany but came to this country in early childhood. The Smith family settled in Wisconsin and the Milkners established a home in Illinois, near Springfield. William Smith and Mary Milkner were married at Springfield and lived there four years; then they went to Lucas, and later to Warren county, Iowa. Mrs. Smith died in 1885, leaving three children, who besides Fred Smith of this review are Sophia (Mrs. B. A. Miller), of Grange township, and Lizzie (Mrs. Leonard French), of Warren county, Iowa. One daughter, Mary, died in infancy.

Miss Grace Herron, a resident of Lucas county, Iowa, became the wife of Fred Smith on November 15, 1903. She was born November 12, 1885, the daughter of Andy and Sarah (Hodson) Herron. Her parents were married November 25, 1881, and to the union were born thirteen children. Besides Mrs. Smith there are Joe, Omer E., Iona M., L. Della, Eva M., Madge M., Avis L., E. Fay, Vergil W., Jud T., Agnes L. and Bonnie L. The Herron family home was in Lucas county, Iowa, except three years spent in western Nebraska. Joe, the oldest in the family, now farms

with Mr. Smith in Gray township. He was born in Lucas county, Iowa, in 1884 and came to Pipestone county March 10, 1911. Before that his home was always in Lucas county, Iowa, excepting one year spent in Valley Springs, South Dakota. Mr. and Mrs. Smith are the parents of the following four children: Herbert D., born December 12, 1905; Sarah I., born July 28, 1907; Orpha M., born December 30, 1908; and Murrel E., born August 24, 1910.

GEORGE RAE (1890), proprietor of a restaurant and confectionery store in Jasper, is a native of Scotland and was born in Aberdeen shire, January 18, 1856. He is the son of George and Barbara (Farquhar) Rae, who came from the "bonnie land of the Scots" to the United States in 1886. After a residence of four years at Dell Rapids, South Dakota, they moved to Jasper, which is still the home of George Rae, his wife having died July 4, 1889. Despite the fact that Mr. Rae, Sr., has passed his three score and ten of years, he is still hale and hearty and is actively employed at the stone quarry. George and Barbara Rae were the parents of ten children, all living. They are Maggie, of Aberdeen, Scotland; James, of Manchester, England; Elizabeth, of Massachusetts; Barbara, of South Dakota; Isabella, of Australia; and Andrew, Alex, William, Robert and George, all of Jasper.

George Rae of this review grew to manhood in his native country. As a boy he learned the trade of stone mason from his father and worked with him in that line until his marriage at the age of twenty-three. In 1881 his career in America began. He worked at his trade in Wisconsin for two years and for another two years was a stone mason in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. He next located at Dell Rapids, the same state. While there he was instrumental in bringing about the organization of the Dell Rapids Co-operative Stone company. Thirteen men were interested in the company, which owned a big stone quarry and yards and employed over 300 men. One year the firm shipped 1400 cars of street paving blocks.

In 1890 Mr. Rae moved to Jasper and for the next five years was engaged in the

general mercantile business. On selling out, he ran a pool hall and lunch counter for three years, or until 1898, when he started his present business. His is a popular eating house and he carries a full line of sweets, fruits, cigars, soft drinks, etc.

Mr. Rae was married while yet a resident of Scotland to Anna Mitchell, also a native of Aberdeen shire, having been born in October, 1858. The wedding ceremony took place July 31, 1870. Eight children have been born to this union, all of whom are living. They are Annie, Barbara, Elizabeth, Bella, George, Andrew, Clarence and Wallace. Mr. Rae served on the city council for three terms. He is a member of the Presbyterian church.

CARL OPPEN (1900) is the efficient manager of the plant of the Pipestone Electric Light, Heat and Power company, the concern which is responsible for the up-to-date system of illumination in vogue in that city. The plant was established and the present building erected in 1901 by Minneapolis parties, who controlled the franchise until December, 1909, when it was sold to a Huron, South Dakota, company, headed by Mr. C. Campbell, the present secretary and treasurer of the corporation.

Carl Oppen, the subject of this biography, was born in Manitowoc county, Wisconsin, August 24, 1876, the son of O. K. and Julia Oppen, also natives of the Badger state. The former parent now resides in Chicago, but the mother has been deceased for a number of years. Carl lived on the home farm in Wisconsin until sixteen years of age, until 1892, when the family moved to Worthington, Minnesota. There he learned the trade of machinist in the shop which the elder Oppen established in that town. Our subject was employed in a Chicago machine shop for six months, then returned to Worthington in October, 1898, to accept a position in the municipal electric light and power plant. He was employed there as fireman and engineer until 1900, when his residence in Pipestone commenced. For eighteen months he was the engineer at the flouring mill and then became connected with the electric light plant. He worked as engineer and electrician until

March, 1906, when he was promoted to his present post of manager.

At Worthington, on December 14, 1898, Mr. Oppen was married to Lola McCracken, a native of Hickory county, Missouri. She was born September 5, 1876. To these parents the four following named children have been born: Homer R., Mabel M., James C. and Ralph L. Our subject holds membership in the following Masonic orders: Quarry Lodge No. 147, of Pipestone; Triune Chapter No. 51, of Pipestone; Minnesota Consistory No. 1, of St. Paul; St. Paul Council No. 1, of St. Paul. He is also an Odd Fellow and a member of the State Firemen's association.

OLAF HANSEN (1906) is the proprietor and operator of the Holland creamery, a leading industry of that village and of the county, as it is the most extensive butter manufacturing plant in the county outside of Pipestone. It is entirely through Mr. Hansen's untiring efforts that such a condition has come to pass. He came to Holland in 1906 and found there the idle plant of the Holland Creamery company, a co-operative concern which had proved a failure. Mr. Hansen forced a reconstruction. He opened the plant, which had been idle more than two years, bought the stock, installed an entire new and improved set of machinery, and, backed by years of practical experience, soon had the business on a paying basis. The weekly shipments of butter average about 6000 pounds and the checks paid to farmers for cream amount to nearly \$5000 per month.

Olaf is the son of Ole Hansen, whose home has always been in Denmark, and he is one of a family of three children. A brother, Carl, is a resident of Ruthton. His only sister, Annie, met her death while crossing the Atlantic on the ill-fated ship "Norge," which went down in the sea and cost the lives of 676 out of a passenger list of 888. The mother of our subject died when Olaf was a child.

In Denmark, on September 2, 1883, Olaf Hansen first beheld the things of earth. He received a common school education and early became an adept at the butter-maker's trade. He followed that occupation in his native land until coming to America at

the age of twenty-one. He secured employment at his trade successively in Rosendale, Wisconsin, and Tyler, Minnesota, going from the latter place to Brown county, South Dakota, where he served the Savo Finnish Creamery company as butter-maker for three months. Previous to locating in Holland in 1906, he followed his trade at Granite Falls and Ruthton, Minnesota.

Mr. Hansen is unmarried. He holds membership in the I. O. O. F. and M. W. A. lodges.

GEORGE CLAUSEN (1900) is the owner of a well improved farm in Elmer township, of which he has been a resident for eleven years. He was born across the seas, in Schleswig, Germany, the first of August, 1867. His parents, George and Maren (Jorgenson) Clausen, were farmers by occupation. George was educated in the German public schools and resided on the home farm in his native land until twenty years of age. On coming to America he located in Shelby county, Iowa. He worked out three years and then farmed rented land until moving to Pipestone county in 1900. At that time Mr. Clausen bought his home farm, the southwest quarter of section 32, Elmer, and later he bought the northwest quarter of the same section. He is a large stock raiser. In an official capacity our subject served his township as treasurer and school district No. 17 as clerk.

While living in Iowa, on February 19, 1889, the subject of this biography was married to Annie Schack, who was born April 12, 1866, the daughter of Jacob and Johanah Maria (Nelson) Schack, both natives of Germany. To Mr. and Mrs. Clausen the following nine children have been born: Hannah, born June 23, 1890; George, born February 5, 1892; Marius, born January 15, 1894; Alma, born June 30, 1898; Dora, born October 29, 1900; Annie, born April 19, 1902; Sophus, born March 13, 1904; Olga, born November 10, 1907; and Walter, born June 6, 1909. Mr. Clausen and his family belong to the German Lutheran church.

AMIL NISSEN (1891), who resides on the northwest quarter of section 24, Aetna township, and engages in general farming,

has been a resident of the county twenty years. He was born in Audubon county, Iowa, May 30, 1880, and is the son of Peter Nissen, a Dane by birth and a resident of Tyler, Lincoln county. His mother, Mary Nissen, who was also born in Denmark, died when our subject was eight years of age.

From Iowa Amil moved with his father to Lincoln county, Minnesota, in 1888 and located on a farm north of the village of Tyler. They lived there three years and then located in Pipestone county—in Aetna township. He assisted with the management of the home farm until becoming of age, then was employed at agricultural pursuits until 1904. That year Mr. Nissen rented his father's Rock township farm, which he conducted four years, moving then to a location two miles east of Holland. He moved from Rock township to the farm he now operates in Aetna in the spring of 1911.

The subject of this review was married at Pipestone to Clara Murphy, a native of Rock county. To them have been born the following five children: Laura, born July 14, 1904; Lawrence, born July 16, 1906; Ella, born October 12, 1907; Frankie, born March 2, 1909; Florence, born March 10, 1911.

HARRY N. STODDARD (1910) is manager of the Pipestone branch of the Gamble-Robinson Fruit and Produce company, whose main office is located in Minneapolis. The company also maintains branches at Aberdeen, South Dakota; Miles City, Montana; Oelwein, Iowa; Mankato, Rochester and St. Paul, Minnesota. One traveling representative covers the territory adjacent to Pipestone. Mr. Stoddard has been in the employ of the company fourteen years.

Harry is one in a family of four children, the others being Will R., of St. Paul; Earl B., of Stewartville, Minnesota; and Blanch G. Sauer, of St. Paul; who were born to Roscoe N. and Lizzie M. (Porter) Stoddard, both natives of Maine. Roscoe N. Stoddard died January 24, 1892, but his wife survives and resides at Stewartville, Minnesota.

The subject of this biography was born

at Elgin, Minnesota, March 16, 1870. Thirteen years later the family moved to Montevideo, Chippewa county, lived there four years, and then going west located at Anaheim, California. The Stoddards returned to Minnesota and conducted a large stock farm at High Forest three years. From there Harry went to Monticello, at which place and later at St. Paul he was connected with the Crescent Creamery company. Mr. Stoddard's next move was to Winona, out of which city he traveled for the R. A. Foster wholesale egg house for six years. In 1897 he accepted a similar position with the Gamble-Robinson company and was on the road until placed in charge of the Pipestone branch in August, 1910. Our subject is a member of the U. C. T.

At Owatonna, Minnesota, on August 29, 1905, Harry N. Stoddard was married to Edna S. Brown, a native of Steele county. Two children have been born to these parents: Evelyn, born June 22, 1906, and Gertrude, born December 20, 1908.

ALBERT OLSON (1891), of Eden township, was born on the farm he now conducts on December 11, 1891. His father was born in Norway August 15, 1885, and died February 14, 1910. He came to this country and to Pipestone county when thirty years old and homesteaded the southeast quarter of section 24, Eden. Albert has farmed the land since this family misfortune. His mother, also a native of Norway, was born January 2, 1858, and is now a resident of Jasper. Our subject has a sister, Tillie, born August 6, 1889, and a brother, Elmer, born September 11, 1894.

CHARLES A. CALKING (1893) is manager of the Colman Lumber company at Edgerton and is the postmaster of that village. His birth occurred November 4, 1868, in Clayton county, Iowa. While a young lad he moved with his parents to Dickinson county, in the same state, where he grew to manhood. After finishing his education in the public schools of Spirit Lake, he clerked for a time in a store of that town and then entered the employ of Capt. D. L. Riley, in his lumber yard. That business Mr. Calking has followed ever since.

In 1891 our subject moved to Tyler and later to Benson and Alexandria, Minnesota, managing the yards of the Blackenor-Curran company at those places. Since 1893 he has resided at Edgerton and has held his present position continuously. The Colman Lumber company was the first to engage in business at Edgerton, building in 1878 before the railroad was built, when it was necessary to haul the supplies in wagons. Mr. Calking is now serving his second term as postmaster of Edgerton, having been first appointed through the efforts of Ex-Congressman McCleary. John Grundler is the assistant postmaster. Mr. Calking served five years as a member of the village council. He is a Knight of Pythias by lodge affiliation.

Charles is the son of George and Maria (Waugh) Calking, natives of England and Dungannon, Ireland, respectively. They were married at Toronto, Canada, and soon after, in 1856, they came to the United States and located in Clayton county, then Dickinson county, Iowa. Mrs. Calking died March 17, 1874, but her husband is still a resident of Spirit Lake. They were the parents of ten children, two of whom, William and James, were drowned together in Turkey river, Fayette county, Iowa, while swimming. The names of the living children are Mary, Ella, Amelia, Charles A., Minnie, Elva, Jesse J. and Harry.

Charles A. Calking was united in marriage at Benson, Minnesota, on July 21, 1892, to Mary E. Hogan, who was born at Anoka, Minnesota, February 8, 1874, the daughter of J. M. Hogan. Two daughters have blessed this union: Mabel M., born May 7, 1893, and Clara G., born November 11, 1895.

FRANK WAGNER (1905), of Fountain Prairie township, owns and farms the southwest quarter of section 32, land upon which he has lived since moving to the county in 1905. A native Iowan, he was born in Blackhawk county September 21, 1863, the son of Moritz and Carrie (Glesser) Wagner, both natives of Germany.

Frank was reared on the parental farm in Blackhawk county and educated in the near by district school. On severing home ties at the age of twenty-three years, he went to Colorado and farmed

three years; then for a year he was located in Montana. He pushed further west and for two years we find him identified with the agricultural interests of California. Mr. Wagner returned to rent and manage the home farm in Blackhawk county, and was so engaged until he bought and located on his Pipestone county land. He has made many substantial improvements on the place and only recently completed a fine new barn.

Our subject was united in marriage at Pipestone on December 20, 1905, to Edith Parnitzke, a native of Warrenton, Missouri. She was born in Warren county, Missouri, January 13, 1883. Mrs. Wagner is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Adolph and Mary Agusta (Ockershausen) Parnitzke. Her father is a native of Germany; her mother is of German parentage but was born at Lansing, Michigan. Mr. and Mrs. Wagner are the parents of one son, William A., born November 9, 1908. Mr. and Mrs. Wagner are members of the German Evangelical church.

MRS. LUKE M. BROWN (1905) is the proprietor of a millinery store and is a dressmaker of Pipestone. She is a native of Woodhull, Steuben county, New York, and was born November 20, 1861. She is of Scotch-English descent. Her father, David C. Bullard, was born in New York state November 14, 1829, and her mother, Mary Ann (Tubbs) Bullard, was born in the same state July 3, 1833. Both were descendants of early Scotch and English families in America. Mrs. Brown is one of a family of twelve children, of whom the following named seven are living: Walter, of Winnebago City; Emily Richardson, of Fairmont; Maryeth Kinney, of Winnebago City; Mrs. Brown, of this sketch; Euna Oulman, of St. James; Selden E., of St. James; George W., of Havre, Montana.

The Bullard family came west in 1866 and settled in Mitchell county, Iowa. Later they lived in Cerro Gordo county, Iowa, and in Houston county, Minnesota, and in 1875 located in Martin county, this state. In Rutland township, on Lake Martin, the father of our subject took a homestead claim, and there the family resided until 1897. That year Mr. Bullard died and

soon thereafter the family took up their residence in Fairmont, where they resided a number of years. The mother of our subject, who is now seventy-nine years of age, resides with a daughter in St. James.

After her school days the subject of this review went to Eldora, Iowa, where for a few years she was engaged in the millinery business, clerking in a dry goods store and trimming hats. She was married December 24, 1882, to Seward W. Pratt, a native of Cattaraugus county, New York. Mr. and Mrs. Pratt made their home in Fairmont, Minnesota, until his death, which occurred February 22, 1901, at the age of forty-three years. To them were born four children, as follows: John C. Pratt, of Baker City, Oregon, born September 24, 1885; Maud M. Pratt, a school teacher, born January 13, 1887; Dee H. Pratt, born November 15, 1889; Lillian M. (Mrs. Harry Schapler), of Sioux Falls, born August 27, 1891.

The second marriage of our subject occurred at Estherville, Iowa, August 3, 1905, when she was wedded to Luke Brown, of Pipestone. Since that date she has resided in Pipestone. Mr. and Mrs. Brown are the parents of one child, Margaret Stannard Brown, born July 21, 1906.

For several years after the death of her first husband Mrs. Brown conducted a millinery store in Fairmont. In the spring of 1910 she opened a store and dressmaking parlors in Pipestone. She carries the largest and most complete line of goods in the city. Mrs. Brown is an active lodge worker, holding membership in the Royal Neighbors, Brotherhood of American Yeomen, Mystic Workers, Mystic Toilers, Lady Maccabees, Degree of Honor and Woman's Relief Corps. In all the orders except the Mystic Workers she has held office. She was assistant deputy organizer of the Lady Maccabees and the Mystic Toilers. She is a Presbyterian.

FRED J. BINNEBOSE (1902), an Altona township farmer, was born on the tenth of April, 1882, in Joliet, Illinois. His parents, Charles and Lena (Robcke) Binnebose, were born in Germany and are now residents of Gray township.

One year after the birth of our subject

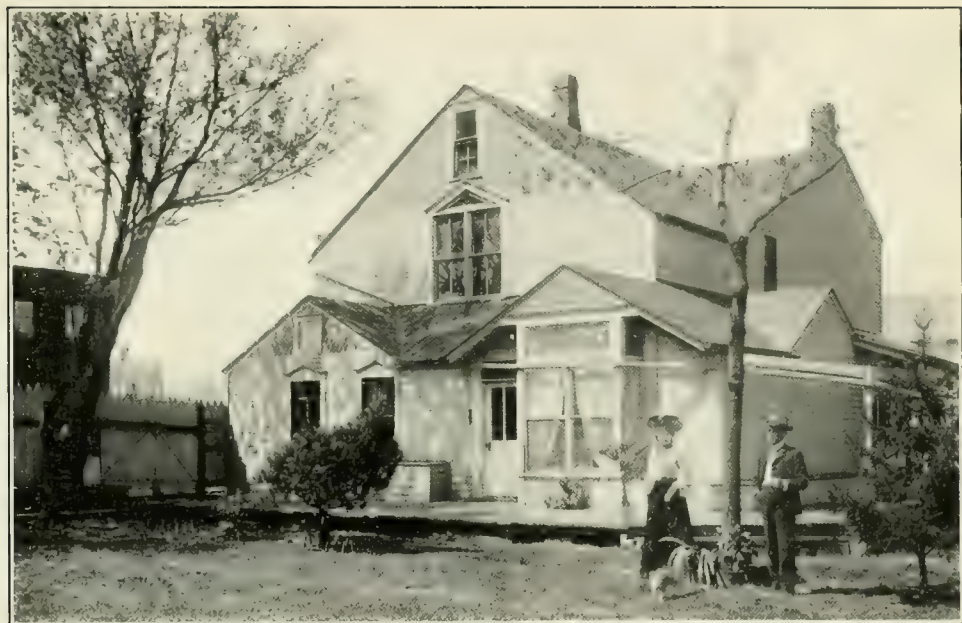
the family became residents of Plymouth county, Iowa, which was their home until moving to Pipestone county in 1902. Fred was reared on a farm and educated in the district schools of Plymouth county. For four years after the Binneboses made settlement in Pipestone county, he assisted on the farms of his father in Sweet and Gray townships; then he commenced farming on his own account. For a year he was located on a farm near Hatfield and in 1909 moved to his present place, the west half of section 36. Mr. Binnebose is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge at Cazenovia.

At Pipestone, on March 23, 1909, the subject of this review was joined in marriage to Lottie Pollock, who was born in Iowa March 10, 1891. One son, Leslie, was born to these parents, on December 27, 1909.

MAGNUS K. STEEN (1877) is the owner of one of the fine farms of Eden township, the southeast quarter of section 24. His handsome, new farm residence is modern in every particular, as are also the other buildings on the place. Mr. Steen filed a timber claim to his land in the early days, making entry on the same on his twenty-first birthday, July 12, 1884. He also owns a quarter section of land in Clark county, South Dakota, four miles from the county seat.

Magnus is one in a family of three sons and four daughters, all but one of whom are living, born to Knut K. and Karn (Bartelson) Steen, natives of Norway. Knut K. Steen was born December 12, 1827, and died May 14, 1891, while his wife passed away in June of the year following, at the age of sixty-nine years. Besides our subject the living children are Otto K., a Rose Dell township farmer; Caroline Nelson, of Jasper; Hannah Nelson, of Chicago; Matilda Ellefson, of Rose Dell township; and Clara Norvold, of Volga, South Dakota.

The birth of Magnus K. Steen occurred in Allamakee county, Iowa, July 12, 1863. He was fourteen years of age when the family departed from Iowa and made settlement in Rock county. The father homesteaded on section 14, Rose Dell town-



RESIDENCE OF C. H. BENNETT, PIPESTONE



FARM HOME OF M. K. STEEN, EDEN TOWNSHIP

ship, and upon that farm our subject made his home until he was twenty-seven years old. Then he settled on his present Pipestone county farm, which he had taken as a timber claim a number of years previous. In addition to being a progressive farmer, Mr. Steen is a useful citizen of his community. He served six years as a member of the township board and was a school director for five years. He is a director of the Rose Dell Mutual Insurance company and is the treasurer of the Norwegian Lutheran church, of Rose Dell.

At Old East Point Creek, on June 26, 1894, Magnus K. Steen was joined in the bonds of matrimony to Mattie Jensen, daughter of Engebret and Ragnel Jensen, both living in Allamakee county, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Steen have three children: Clara, born January 9, 1897; Lester, born February 1, 1901; and Myrtle, born November 20, 1906.

ELMER E. HURD (1908), of Pipestone, is the popular conductor on the Pipestone-Heron Lake branch of the Omaha road and the owner of the Victoria airdome, a popular amusement resort of that city, of which his son, Victor E. Hurd, is the manager. Mr. Hurd rented Holt's hall in 1909 and launched this enterprise. In the spring of 1910 he erected his own commodious and well arranged building and has met with pronounced success in his undertaking. The Victoria is unrivalled by any similar enterprise in this section of the state.

In the town of Maxwell, Wisconsin, on September 14, 1866, occurred the birth of Elmer E. Hurd of this review. At the age of thirteen he moved with his parents to Gary, Deuel county, South Dakota, where his father, C. P. Hurd, homesteaded a quarter section of land. Elmer completed his education in the schools at Gary. On attaining his majority he left home and for three years was located in different portions of the west, principally in Colorado and New Mexico. He returned and commenced his railroading career with the Rock Island line at Estherville, Iowa. Six months later he became connected with the Great Northern as a brakeman, and during the four years of

such employment made his headquarters at Willmar. Mr. Hurd then accepted a run as conductor on the main line of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha railroad, with which he has now been connected for fifteen years. He has operated trains on the main line and many of the branches of the Minnesota & Iowa division, and prior to moving to Pipestone was located at St. James and Worthington.

Elmer is the eldest of six children born to C. P. and Maggie (Bates) Hurd, both natives of New York and now residents of Clear Lake, South Dakota. They were married at Madison, Wisconsin. C. P. Hurd is a civil war veteran, having served for four years as a member of company G, Twenty-fifth Wisconsin volunteer infantry. Besides our subject the following are the children born to these parents: Wallace A., who died June 23, 1898, at Chickamauga Park, Tennessee, while serving as a volunteer in the Spanish-American war; Fred E., a conductor on the South Dakota Central; Minnie (Mrs. Axel Hanson), of Watertown, South Dakota; Libby (Mrs. Fred Warner), of Clear Lake, South Dakota; and Myrtle (Mrs. Louis F. Hanley), of Clear Lake.

At Watertown, South Dakota, on January 18, 1895, Elmer E. Hurd was united in marriage to Mary E. Phillips, of Clark, South Dakota. Mrs. Hurd is a native of LaCrosse, Wisconsin, and was born July 1, 1865. One son, Victor E., was born to these parents, on December 8, 1895. In a fraternal way our subject is affiliated with the Blue Lodge, Chapter and Eastern Star branches of the Masonic order, the Yeomen, Modern Brotherhood of America, the Mystic Workers, Order of Railroad Conductors and the Railway Protective association.

ROBERT W. COLBURN (1908), grocer of Pipestone, is one of that city's most enterprising men of business. He is an enthusiastic booster for Pipestone and is confident of a most promising future prosperity for southwestern Minnesota's railroad center. Mr. Colburn is the successor to the old established grocery business of A. C. Wright, which is one of the two exclusive grocery stores in the county.

To the parents, Asa W. and Frances D.

(Giles) Colburn, both natives of New York and both deceased, Robert W. Colburn of this sketch was born at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, July 19, 1872. In that Iowa city he was educated, completing the commercial course offered by the high school, and in that city he grew to manhood. He moved from his home city to St. Paul, where he resided continuously until coming to Pipestone. From the first Mr. Colburn engaged in the grocery business in the capital city, and for many years he was a leading spirit in the large and influential organization, the Retail Grocery Clerks' association. For three years he was honored with the presidency of the association and in 1903 was delegated the St. Paul representative to attend the national convention at Buffalo, New York.

In 1906 our subject became connected as salesman with the fruit and commission house of Gamble-Robinson company, and it was largely through his recommendations and efforts that the company established a branch house at Pipestone. At the time of establishment Mr. Colburn was placed in charge of the Pipestone house, which prompted his removal to that city in September, 1908. He resigned his position after a year's service and until buying his present business, in October, 1910, he traveled through southwestern Minnesota for C. Shenkberg & Co., wholesale grocers of Sioux City.

Mr. Colburn, together with O. P. Nason and J. H. Robson, were the most actively interested in the organization and the early development of the Pipestone Commercial club, which has been of inestimable value in attracting widespread attention to the many commercial and industrial advantages offered by Pipestone to the investor and home seeker. Mr. Colburn was the club's first secretary, and on retiring from the office was succeeded by J. H. Nichols. Fraternally he is allied with the Odd Fellows, Modern Brotherhood, United Commercial Travelers and M. W. A.

At St. Paul, on October 20, 1900, Robert W. Colburn was united in marriage to Emaline Snow, of Vinton, Iowa, a native of Ursa, Adams county, Illinois. They are the parents of two children, Frances and Robert.

CURTIS I. GROVER (1900), Gray township farmer, was born in Tama county, Iowa, January 19, 1874, the son of George and Katherine (Fullmer) Grover. He was educated in the district schools and resided on the home farm in Tama county until 1895, when the family moved to Harris, Osceola county, Iowa. There the Grovers remained five years, at the end of which time they became identified with Pipestone county interests, George Grover in 1900 buying the east half of section 36, Gray. The first year in the Minnesota county Curtis broke prairie and raised a crop of flax; then he rented his father's farm, which he has since successfully conducted. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge.

At Pipestone, on January 2, 1901, Mr. Grover of this review was joined in marriage to Ida Zimmerman, the daughter of Martin and Louisa (Kemnetz) Zimmerman. She was born in Floyd county, Iowa, July 10, 1885. Mr. and Mrs. Grover are the parents of the following named children: Grace, born February 4, 1902; Hazel, born January 30, 1904; Curtis, born April 12, 1906; Martin, born October 4, 1909.

WILLIS E. DOAN (1896) is an Edgerton grain buyer. He was born in Ingham county, Michigan, October 25, 1858, the son of Alonzo and Betsey E. Doan, the latter of whom is still living. The father died in 1898.

Willis E. Doan grew to manhood on his father's Michigan farm. On attaining his majority he went to Kansas, remained there two years, and then homesteaded and lived in Hand county, South Dakota, ten years. In 1895 he located in Luverne for a year, was a Burke township farmer for twice that length of time, then settled in Edgerton, and has since been employed in the different elevators. He also oversees a small farm. He is a member of the M. W. A. lodge and his wife of the Royal Neighbors.

In Mason, Michigan, on December 30, 1888, Willis E. Doan and Etta DuBois were made man and wife. Mrs. Doan was born in Cass county, Michigan, August 6, 1869, the daughter of C. C. and Alsina (Phelps)

DuBois, the latter of whom is deceased. The father, C. C. DuBois, is a resident of Lansing, Michigan. Two sons have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Doan, namely: Vance E., born August 27, 1890, a brakeman on the Milwaukee railroad; and Mort A., born April 15, 1894, who is the night operator at the Edgerton depot. In May, 1909, Mrs. Doan opened a cafe and restaurant in Edgerton. She serves meals, short orders, and deals in confectionery, bakery goods, etc.

JESSE C. WALTER (1905) is a contractor and builder of the village of Trosky. He was born in Stephenson county, Illinois, the ninth of June, 1883, the son of Albert and Mary (Clarno) Walter, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Illinois. They are now residents of Illinois.

Our subject was reared on his father's farm and lived there until attaining his majority. He then went to the town of Orangeville, where he learned the carpenter's trade and was employed at such occupation at that place until 1905, the date of his settlement in Trosky. For awhile he worked with J. L. Chaney, then established his present contracting and building business. He has erected many of the substantial buildings in Trosky and vicinity.

At Edgerton, on December 12, 1907, Jesse C. Walter was joined in wedlock to Mollie E. Frankeberger, also a native of Stephenson county, Illinois, where she was born September 12, 1882. One child, Wendell W., was born to these parents, October 17, 1908. Mr. Walter holds membership in the Odd Fellows lodge.

HENRY FLYGARE (1909), of Ruthton, is the manager of the branch yard of the H. W. Ross Lumber company at that point. He is a native Minnesotan, having been born in Atwater, Kandiyohi county, on August 2, 1879. His parents, Andrew and Mary (Hallberg) Flygare, came to the United States from their native land of Sweden when young. They were married at Providence, Rhode Island, and settled in Kandiyohi county in an early day. They now reside at Atwater.

Henry was educated in the graded school of Atwater and in the commercial department of Highland Park college, Des Moines, Iowa. On completing the course of the latter institution, he entered the employ of the Security Bank of Atwater as bookkeeper. At the age of twenty-four he became a grain buyer, and in that capacity was located a year and a half at Guelph, North Dakota, and for three years at Green Valley, Minnesota. While living at the latter place Mr. Flygare became connected with the H. W. Ross Lumber company, and was transferred from the management of the yard at Green Valley to his present position in 1909. He is the venerable counsel of Ruthton Camp No. 3694, Modern Woodmen of America.

Henry Flygare was married in his native town on May 17, 1906, to Clara Irene Davidson, who was born in Atwater June 9, 1881. A daughter, Alice, was born to these parents on May 7, 1907.

ADOLPH SMALLFIELD (1905), who farms the southeast quarter of section 26, Gray township, was born at Davenport, Iowa, October 11, 1859. His father, William Smallfield, a German by birth, settled in Davenport in 1848. For a number of years he was a merchant in that city, then became a Scott county farmer. The mother of our subject was Mary (Steinhilber) Smallfield, a native of Ohio. Adolph lived on, and assisted with the management of, the home farm until after his twenty-third birthday. Then he married and commenced farming on his own account. He left Iowa in 1901 to go to Rock county, Minnesota. He farmed in Kanaranzi township three years and then became identified with agricultural interests in Pipestone county. Prior to moving to his present place, our subject farmed rented land on sections 17 and 7, Gray township.

In Scott county, Iowa, on February 3, 1883, Mr. Smallfield was joined in wedlock to Alvina Schroeder, a native of that county. She was born August 14, 1864, the daughter of Henry and Catherine (Martin) Schroeder, both natives of Holstein, Germany. To Mr. and Mrs. Smallfield have been born the following seven children: Albert, born November 27, 1883;

William, born February 24, 1885; Theodore, born March 13, 1887; Otto, born June 14, 1890; Arthur, born December 4, 1893; Meta, born November 6, 1896; and Bertha, born July 31, 1903.

PAUL LANYON (1898) farms 800 acres of Pipestone county land, which includes all of section 36, range 47, Altona, and the northeast quarter of section 1, range 47, Troy. He is also a large raiser of high grade stock.

To the parents, John Lanyon, a native of England, and Annie (Sherrill) Lanyon, a native of Wisconsin, was born Paul Lanyon of this review in Lafayette county, Wisconsin, September 8, 1886. Both parents are still living and are residents of Pipestone county. Paul attended the district schools of his native county until fifteen years of age. Then, in 1901, the family moved to Humboldt county, Iowa, where the father engaged in farming two years. For similar periods the Lanyons were located at Milford and Terrill, Iowa. Our subject was employed in the railroad shops in Oelwein, Iowa, for a year previous to coming to Pipestone county, which was in 1905. Since August, 1910, Mr. Lanyon has managed the E. A. Brown elevator at Cresson.

SIDNEY ROBSON (1908) is the treasurer of the firm of Robson-Hilliard company, wholesale grocers, which is counted among the foremost of Pipestone's substantially established commercial enterprises. Because of Pipestone's exceptional advantages as a railroad center the city is a fruitful field for the operation of such a house as the Robson-Hilliard company, as its success and increasing volume of business attests. The Robson-Hilliard company employs an able corps of salesmen, who cover a large tributary territory, and the quality of the output compares favorably with that of the largest of the state's wholesale grocery houses. The Pipestone company was organized in 1907 and began business in July of that year. The paid-in capital stock is \$75,000 and the following are the officers: J. H. Robson, president; J. W. Hilliard, vice president; James

A. Robson, secretary; Sidney Robson, treasurer.

Sidney Robson of this sketch is the son of J. H. Robson, of Owatonna, Minnesota, and Anna G. (Schad) Robson, deceased. Both parents were born in Geneva, Freeborn county, in the pioneer days of the state's history. Mrs. Robson was the first white child born in the county of Freeborn. Sidney was born in the city of Owatonna, September 2, 1882. Following his graduation from the Owatonna high school, he was for a year a student at the university of Minnesota. His school days over he engaged in a banking career, which was marked with success. For two years he held the position of cashier of the Security State Bank of Owatonna; then, until moving to Pipestone in 1908, he was employed in a similar capacity with the Mouse River Bank, of Towner, North Dakota.

The marriage of Sidney Robson to Selma Peterson occurred at Owatonna on May 2, 1907. Mrs. Robson is a native of Towner, North Dakota.

R. A. HYDE (1905) is the junior member of the firm of Green & Hyde, real estate brokers, of Pipestone. A native of England, he was born at Staleybridge October 23, 1877. He was four years of age when he crossed the sea with his parents and made settlement in the United States. On the farm of his father near LeMars, Iowa, Mr. Hyde resided until after his twenty-second birthday. He was educated in the district schools of his home county.

For eight years Mr. Hyde was connected with the Advance Thresher company, as traveling representative. His headquarters were for most of the time at Mitchell, South Dakota, though in the years 1905 and 1906 he was located at Pipestone. In 1909 he formed a partnership with W. A. Green in the real estate business at Gentry, Arkansas. The firm moved from that point to Pipestone in April, 1910, and now conduct an office in the Commerce block. In addition to real estate, Green & Hyde deal in automobile supplies and are agents for the Overland car.

At Pipestone, on June 22, 1904, R. A. Hyde was joined in marriage to Alice Howes, a native of Merrill, Iowa. To this

union two daughters, Margaret and Elizabeth L., have been born. Mr. Hyde is a member of the order of United Commercial Travelers.

JOSEPH STURZL (1902), blacksmith of Pipestone, is a native German. He was born June 19, 1878, the son of Bartholomew and Theresa Sturzl, both deceased. They were parents also of two other sons, Xavia and Frank, and of two daughters, Helena and Josephine.

When a child of six years Joseph crossed the Atlantic with his parents and located with them at Medford, Taylor county, Wisconsin. Two years later the family moved to Sleepy Eye, Minnesota, and there Joseph divided his time between attendance at the public schools and learning the blacksmith's trade in the shop of his father until he was thirteen years old. He was then left fatherless, and until 1897 he was employed in different shops, completing his trade. In the year mentioned Mr. Sturzl reopened the shop of his father in Sleepy Eye and conducted the same until locating in Pipestone five years later. He bought the shop of L. H. Moore and the tools of Charles Davis and has built up a well equipped plant for general work. Mr. Sturzl is an expert horse shoer. He owns his residence in Pipestone.

At New Ulm, Minnesota, on July 30, 1902, Joseph Sturzl was married to Barbara Platzer, a native of Germany who came to this country in early childhood. Three sons and one daughter have been born to these parents, namely: Jerome, Lawrence, Joseph and Josephine.

WILLIAM C. ASLESEN (1902), who is associated with his brother, Erick J. Aslesen, and John Rudd in the conduct of Jasper's big and successful mercantile establishment of Aslesen Bros. & Rudd, was born in Brownsville, Minnesota, August 20, 1877. He is the son of that esteemed and honored couple, Christ and Sigrid (Ellefson) Aslesen, resident of Jasper of whom mention is made in this volume under the sketch of Erick J. Aslesen.

The year of his birth William accompanied his parents in their journey to es-

tablish a home in Minnehaha county, South Dakota, where his father filed on a homestead claim. When he was a boy of five, the family moved to Sioux Falls, remained there seven years, and then returned to the old farm. William's early education was received in the public schools of Sioux Falls and Jasper and later he was graduated from Macallaster college, St. Paul. His school days over, he went to Hills, Minnesota, and for a year and a half clerked in the store of Olaf Skyberg. In 1902 he removed to Jasper and entered the firm in which he has since been interested.

Aslesen Bros. & Rudd is an institution of which Jasper may well be proud. In point of actual business transacted, it stands in the lead of any similar concern doing business in Pipestone county. The firm carries a full and complete line of general merchandise and clothing, the business being housed in two separate buildings. In addition, the firm owns other property in Jasper and considerable farm land in South Dakota.

At Watertown, South Dakota, on May 26, 1909, Mr. Aslesen was married to Miss Nettie Wells, who was born in Mankato, Minnesota, February 27, 1882, the daughter of James and Mary (Fields) Wells. One daughter, Mary, was born to these parents, March 4, 1910. Mr. Aslesen holds membership in the K. P. and M. W. A. lodges.

AUGUST C. KALLSEN (1910), farmer and stock raiser of Eden township, is a native Iowan. He was born in Benton county August 26, 1888, the son of Peter and Matilda (Miller) Kallsen. Peter Kallsen is a native German, but the mother was born in Benton county. August was reared on a farm and was educated in the district and parochial school at Keystone. He started to work out at the age of fifteen years and was so employed three years. Then he rented land and farmed for himself in Iowa. In the spring of 1910 he came to Pipestone county and has since rented and farmed the east half of section 36, range 47, Eden, land owned by his father. He is engaged quite extensively in the raising of sheep.

Our subject was married in Pipestone on September 21, 1910, to Laura Meyer, also

a native of Benton county, Iowa. She was born November 22, 1891, the daughter of Louis and Anna (Petermann) Meyer, now residents of Pipestone. Mr. and Mrs. Kallsen are members of the German Lutheran church.

CHARLES W. STUDE (1907) caters to the automobile trade of Pipestone. He conducts a garage and an up-to-date repair shop and is the local agent for the Ford car. Charles is the third in a family of four sons and one daughter, the names of the other children being Henry, Christ, Louis and Annie. He was four years of age when his father, Christian Stude, died. His mother, Margaret Knoa, married a second time and now resides in the state of Washington.

Our subject passed the first sixteen years of his life on the farm of his father in Livingston county, Illinois, where he was born February 6, 1878. He was educated in the district schools and later in the public schools of Streator. In the fall of 1893 Mr. Stude was adopted by the state of Minnesota. He worked for a year on a farm near Brewster, Nobles county, then took employment in the McChesney blacksmith and machine shop in that village and became proficient as a mechanic. For a number of seasons he was engaged as an engineer in a threshing crew. He established the first feed mill in Brewster, which he conducted two years, selling out on his removal to Pipestone in 1907.

Charles W. Stude was joined in matrimony on June 20, 1906, at Brewster, to Minnie Pinz, the daughter of Herman Pinz, one of Nobles county's early settlers. A daughter, Dorothy, has been born to this union.

ELMER R. SANDERS (1904), who successfully farms the southwest quarter of section 20, Grange township, is a native Iowan. He was born on the farm of his father, George W. Sanders, in Benton county, on April 18, 1866. His father, a native of Virginia, died in 1886. The mother of our subject, Ellen (Goff) Sanders, a native of Wisconsin, still resides in Benton county. Besides Elmer there are seven

other sons and two daughters in the Sanders family, namely: Isaac B., Charles T., Albert J., Will, Perry E., Fred, George, Lucinda and Martha.

Elmer Sanders was educated in the district schools of his native county, where he also began his career as farmer at the age of eighteen years. In 1896 he moved to Wright county, Iowa, farmed there eight years, and then established his residence in Pipestone county. He engages extensively in the threshing business. Mr. Sanders' 1910 crop of barley yielded twenty-five bushels to the acre, his oats, forty-five bushels, and his corn, fifty bushels.

Our subject was married July 14, 1910, in Pipestone to Mrs. Maggie Furnia, a native of Michigan. Mrs. Sanders has an only son, Joseph Furnia, of Chicago. Mr. Sanders holds membership in the Odd Fellows lodge.

ALBERT H. DIETZ (1905) is the manager of the yard of the Lampert Lumber company at Holland. He is a native Minnesotan and was born in Cottonwood county on March 25, 1881. His father, Henry Dietz, is also a son of the North Star state and was born near New Ulm. Henry Dietz married Mary Gluth, who came to the United States in early childhood from her native land of Germany. The Dietz family were early settlers of Cottonwood county and are now residents of Sanborn, Minnesota, at which place Henry Dietz is a general merchant. Besides Albert H., of this review, there are eight other children in the family, as follows: Lilly, Anna, Charlie, Gertie, Lilly, Walter, Esther and Arnold.

Albert was five years of age when the family moved from Cottonwood county to Sanborn, and in that town he received a graded school education and commenced the career he has since followed. At the age of eighteen he entered the employ of the Lampert Lumber company as second man in the branch at Sanborn, a position he held six years. He then became the manager of the Mississippi Lumber & Coal company's yard at Monticello, Minnesota. He remained at that place six months, leaving in 1905 to accept his present position in Holland. Mr. Dietz holds membership in

the Modern Brotherhood of America lodge.

At Sanborn, Minnesota, on January 12, 1905, our subject was married to Ida M. Leopold, the daughter of Jacob and Mary Leopold, of Sanborn. She was born in that town May 26, 1882. Mr. and Mrs. Dietz are the parents of two children: Clifford, born August 9, 1906, and Ivan, born January 9, 1910.

JOHN M. AREND (1907) is a blacksmith of Trosky. A native of New York, he was born at Sheldon January 8, 1879. At the age of four he moved with his parents to Gilbertsville, Iowa, where he grew to manhood on his father's farm. At the age of fifteen he began to learn the blacksmith's trade, and on attaining his majority he went to Colman, South Dakota. For two years he did carpenter work, then bought a half interest in a blacksmith shop and was engaged in its conduct until March 20, 1907, the date of his settlement in Trosky. He owns one of the neatest little shops in the county and does general blacksmith and wood work and repairing.

On June 3, 1908, at Gilbertsville, Iowa, Mr. Arend was joined in marriage to Mary Demuth, who was born at that place in July, 1881. Mr. Arend has served as justice of the peace for the past three years. He is a member of the Catholic church.

THEODORE CARSTENS (1909) is the junior member of the firm of Henning-Carstens Company, proprietors of the "Fair" store at Pipestone. This enterprising business institution has been under its present management since November, 1909. At that time Mr. Carstens and Carl Henning came to the city and bought the dry goods stock of Sommerville Bros. and the general merchandise stock of E. J. Beaudry. These two businesses were combined into the "Fair," which now occupies the double room in the Syndicate block and is recognized as the largest department store in the county.

Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, is the birthplace, and August 2, 1865, the date of the birth of Theodore Carstens. His parents, John and Emily Carstens, are both natives of Schleswig-Holstein, Germany. They came to this country early in life and were mar-

ried in Wisconsin during the pioneer days of that state. For the past twenty-eight years Mr. and Mrs. Carstens have been residents of Medford, Wisconsin. Eight years after his birth our subject moved to New Holstein, Wisconsin, where he was a student in the public schools until his fifteenth year. Then the family home was established at Medford. Theodore was associated with his father in the meat and provision business in that town for twenty years. He traveled at intervals and finally disposed of his interests in the Wisconsin town to locate in Pipestone.

At Renville, Minnesota, on June 24, 1896, our subject was united in marriage to Bertha Henning, and to this union have been born two daughters, Caroline and Dorothy. Mr. Carstens holds membership in the Masonic and Modern Woodmen orders.

JOHN H. BONG (1898) is one of the highly esteemed citizens of Jasper and a practicing physician and surgeon in that thriving community. He is one of the successful practitioners in the county and is a man who has risen through adverse circumstances to a position of affluence. Dr. Bong makes a specialty of the diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat and intends in the future to devote his entire attention to such practice. He has taken special post-graduate work in a leading Chicago school with that intent.

A native of Sweden, Dr. Bong was born July 25, 1872. He came alone at the tender age of eight years to this country and direct to Minnesota. He grew to manhood in the village of Carlton, near Duluth. Starting unaided and without means, he owes his rise in the world entirely to his own efforts. After completing a public school course, he worked his way through Valparaiso university and completed the scientific course. He then taught school for a number of years, following which he entered the medical department of the university of Minnesota, from which he was graduated as an M. D. with the class of 1897. After practising for a year and a half in the city of Minneapolis, Dr. Bong located in his present field of labor.

Jasper can boast of no more public spirited citizens than is Dr. Bong. He has

been the president of the local board of health since the first year of his residence there, and has been a capable chief executive of the Commercial club. He organized the Jasper telephone service and was the first president of the controlling company. In the past he has been a director of the Farmers Elevator company, secretary of the Co-operative Creamery company, and a member of the board of education. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Masons, Knights of Pythias, Maccabees, Modern Woodmen, Ancient Order United Workmen and Royal Neighbors orders. He is the medical examiner of the three last named lodges and for all the old line insurance companies doing business in the village.

The doctor owns a beautiful home in the village and two Rock county farms. On one of his farms, south of Jasper, is located the Blue Jasper stone quarry, the only blue stone known in the vicinity. It takes a beautiful polish and is very much in demand for building, trimming and monumental purposes. The quarry has been opened and worked to some extent.

At Jasper, on the twenty-seventh of February, 1899, Dr. Bong was married to Mrs. Louise Johnson, the former wife of Dr. M. Johnson, deceased, a well known earlier physician of Jasper. Mrs. Bong is a native of Marshalltown, Iowa. She is a pharmacist and at one time was proprietor of Johnson's pharmacy. One son, John Norman, was born to these parents, on February 19, 1903.

F. W. PRATT (1891), for twenty years a resident of Pipestone, is the manager of the Minneapolis Brewing company's branch at that point. The Pipestone branch is one of the important and early established distributing points of the company and the manager of it has supervision over all the others in southwestern Minnesota and southeastern South Dakota, extending to the Missouri river, a territory which comprises eleven sub-branches. When he came to Pipestone in the spring of 1891, Mr. Pratt in company with his cousin, G. W. Pratt, established the Pipestone bottling works, which they still own, but the active management of the

plant is reposed in George G. Pratt, the son of our subject, and R. A. Gannon. Mr. Pratt is also an ice dealer.

A native of the Buckeye state, F. W. Pratt was born at Chardon, Geauga county, June 7, 1858. Nine months after the natal event he accompanied his parents to Green county, Wisconsin, where he was reared and grew to manhood on his father's farm. He later purchased the home farm and conducted it several years, but gave up farming on account of defective eye sight and moved to Wahpeton, North Dakota, where he became familiar with the bottling business. After three years' residence there he located in Britton, South Dakota, where with his cousin he established a bottling works and lived until moving to Pipestone and establishing a similar enterprise.

At Madison, Wisconsin, July 7, 1878, Mr. Pratt was married to Sybilla Gannon, a native of that city. Two children have been born to these parents: Maud (Mrs. Earl Hallowell), of St. Paul, and George G., of Pipestone. Mr. Pratt is affiliated with the Elks and the United Commercial Travelers.

ALBERT L. STEINKE (1904) has been a resident of Pipestone for the past seven years. He is a native Minnesotan and was born at Henderson March 16, 1882. The year following his nativity he moved with his parents to the town of Gaylord, where the father, Otto H. Steinke, engaged in the hardware and tinning business, the details of which our subject acquired in subsequent years under the tutelage of his parent. On leaving home Albert went to Westbrook, Cottonwood county, where he was employed at his trade of tinner for three years. From that town he moved to Pipestone in 1904.

On locating in Pipestone Mr. Steinke entered the employ of the Laird-Norton company, at that time dealers in both lumber and hardware. He was connected with that firm for a period of three and one-half years; then until January, 1909, he was a tinner in the shop of L. R. Ober. On the date mentioned Mr. Steinke opened a tin shop of his own on a side street. Assured of success, he soon after moved to a more favorable location on the corner of Olive

and Lowry streets and there laid the foundation for his present hardware business. He deals in stoves and hardware staples and also maintains the original tin shop. Our subject is a member of the Masonic and Modern Woodmen lodges.

The father of Albert, Otto. H. Steinke, who was born in Germany December 3, 1854, married Elizabeth Hemberlie, a native of Evansville, Indiana. She died May 13, 1888, at the age of twenty-eight years and Mr. Steinke died September 8, 1910. They left five children: Laura, Albert, of this sketch; Emma, Metha and Elizabeth. By a subsequent marriage of his father, Albert has two half-sisters and a half-brother, Martha, Willie and Edith. Our subject was married at Windom, Cottonwood county, December 16, 1903, to Dorothy Moeller, of Davenport, Iowa, who was born in that city September 30 1883. One daughter, Bernice, was born to this union, December 26, 1904.

MARK D. WOOLSTENCROFT (1909), the editor of the Ruthton Gazette, has spent the thirty-two years of his life in two adjoining Minnesota counties, Murray and Pipestone. His father, the late Judge Benjamin W. Woolstencroft, of Slayton, was prior to his death on October 17, 1908, one of the well-known and highly respected citizens and men of affairs in this section of the state. He was the third person to settle in Nobles county, back in 1867, and lived in that county until 1879, when he commenced his eventful and useful career in Murray county. He held an enviable record as a public official. He was a commissioner of Nobles county, commencing his term with the organization of the county in 1870. He was for six years the county surveyor of Nobles county, and surveyor of Murray county for eighteen years. He was elected probate judge of Murray county in 1894 and was serving in that capacity at the time of his death. Judge Woolstencroft married Susan D. Anscomb, and to them were born seven children, the following six of whom are living: Minnie M., James, Mark, Belle (Mrs. Charles Lawrence), of Madison, South Dakota; John and Lulu (Mrs. H. O. Johnson), of Currie.

On the homestead of his uncle, Jack

Woolstencroft, in Murray county, on the first day of the year 1879, the subject of this biography was born. The home of his father had been destroyed by fire a short time previous to this event and the family were temporarily residing on the Jack Woolstencroft farm. Mark was a year old when the family located in Fulda, and in that town he acquired a high school education and grew to manhood.

In his boyhood days Mark D. Woolstencroft learned the printer's art in the office of the Fulda Republican, over which his father presided as editor for many years. For five or six years Mark assisted at the case during the winter months and worked at the carpenter trade during the summer seasons. For two years he gave his whole attention as assistant on the Lake Wilson Pilot, following which he was engaged in the furniture business at Slayton for a year and a half. In 1909 Mr. Woolstencroft moved to Ruthton and has since presided over the destinies of the Gazette. He is recorder of the village and is a member of the M. W. A. lodge.

In Pipestone, on June 3, 1907, our subject was united in marriage to Isabella Krall, a native of Wabasha county, Minnesota. She was born October 16, 1879. Two children have been born to this union: Mark B., born June 16, 1908, and Arthur H., born August 11, 1909.

The Ruthton Gazette was established in 1897 by W. C. Smith as a six-column folio and was later changed to a five-column quarto. Mr. Smith was the active head of the paper until June, 1909, when he leased the plant and business to its present editor, Mark D. Woolstencroft. The paper is now a five-column quarto. The Gazette espouses the doctrines of republicanism.

WILLIAM BAKER (1900), farmer of Osborne township, is a native Iowan. The son of Arthur and Catherine (Bearman) Baker, he was born in Marion county, Iowa, May 3, 1885. He was three years of age when the Baker family moved to Nebraska, where they remained ten years and then returned to Ringgold county, Iowa. In the district schools of that county William completed his education. In 1900, after having lived two years in Sibley, Iowa, the

family became residents of Pipestone county. Our subject assisted on the home farm until 1904, when he rented land and commenced farming on his own account. He now lives on the southwest quarter of section 25, Osborne, where he engages extensively in stock raising, especially of hogs and sheep.

At Leota, Nobles county, on February 8, 1904, William Baker was joined in marriage to Marie Kallemeyn, who was born April 23, 1884, the daughter of Martin and Martha (Kociman) Kallemeyn, of Leota. A son, William Arthur, was born to this union April 22, 1907. Mr. and Mrs. Baker are members of the Christian Reformed church of Edgerton.

VICTOR F. FRANK (1898), Sweet township farmer, is a native of LaCrosse, Wisconsin, at which place his birth occurred February 1, 1857. It was several years before this natal event that his parents, William and Nettie Frank, came from their native land of Germany and located in the Wisconsin city, where the father followed the occupations of butcher and carpenter. In the early boyhood of Victor the family moved to Lancaster, Wisconsin, where he was educated. He commenced his career as an agriculturist in Cerro Gordo county, Iowa, near Mason City. On leaving that place he established his present residence in Pipestone county in 1898. He rented different farms in Sweet township until the fall of 1909, when he located on the northwest quarter of section 24, which he now conducts.

At Lancaster, Wisconsin, on August 10, 1883, our subject was joined in marriage to Lorena Bartold, who was born in Homer, Wisconsin. Two sons, William and Bert, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Frank. The family are members of the Congregational church.

CLAIRE G. TABOR (1906), of the firm of Hall & Tabor, proprietors of a Pipestone meat market, was born in Clay county, Iowa, on February 5, 1878, the son of Oscar G. and Sarah M. Tabor, natives of New York and Wisconsin, respectively. Oscar G. Tabor homesteaded land in Clay county,

Iowa, in 1865, and later moved to Garretson, South Dakota, where he died March 20, 1910. The mother of our subject lives at Garretson.

At the age of four years Claire moved with his parents from Iowa to the southern part of Missouri, where the family lived four years, and then settled in Garretson, South Dakota. Mr. Tabor lived on a farm in that vicinity seven years, and then for three years he was engaged in the hardware and implement business in Garretson with his father, under the firm name of Tabor & Son. In 1906 he became identified with Pipestone county interests. He bought a farm near Holland, which he conducted until moving to Pipestone in February, 1909, to engage in his present business. Mr. Tabor is a member of the M. B. A. and I. O. O. F. lodges.

At Garretson, South Dakota, on June 6, 1900, Claire G. Tabor was united in marriage to Bertha Hanson, who was born in Lee county, Illinois, September 15, 1877. To this union have been born three children: Elmer T., born March 10, 1901; Calvin O., born September 28, 1903; and Aura, born July 26, 1904.

EUGENE L. MEYERS (1899) is a hardware and harness dealer of Woodstock, a business he has carried on in that town since 1899. At that time he bought the since been conducted. Mr. Meyers carries F. D. Bennett, in which the business has since been conducted. Mr. Meyers carries in stock a full line of hardware, stoves, windmills, saddlery, etc., and does furnace and lighting work.

Eugene is one of a family of five children born to Reuben and Sarah M. (Lattig) Meyers, both natives of Northampton county, Pennsylvania. At an early date they moved by the overland route to Freeport, Illinois, where the family resided until 1884, going that year to Osceola county, Iowa, where Reuben Meyers died in 1889. His wife is still living and resides in Stephenson county, Illinois. The other children in the Meyers family besides our subject are Steven J., of Sibley, Iowa; Annie (Mrs. T. M. Yorger), of Harris, Iowa; Susie (Mrs. Eugene Bobb), of Dakota, Illinois; and Fred, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

While the family were living in Freeport, Illinois, on August 22, 1860, Eugene L. Meyers was born. He received a country school education in his native county, from which he moved, at the age of twenty-four years, to Osceola county, Iowa. He owned and farmed land there for nine years; then for six years he was located in Kossuth county, of the same state, where he represented the Dr. Baker Medical company. He left that locality in 1899 to establish his residence in Woodstock.

In Sibley, Iowa, on October 25, 1892, Mr. Meyers was wedded to Rose Cloud, whose birth occurred in Johnson county, Iowa, January 7, 1873. This union has been blessed by three children, namely: Ruth, born November 2, 1893; Lola, born July 10, 1895; and Donald, born April 17, 1903.

Mr. Meyers has been honored on several occasions by election to offices of trust. He has served on the village council and board of education at Woodstock. He was largely instrumental in the organization of the Woodstock Rural Telephone company, in November, 1909, and is the present executive head of the company. Other officers of the company are George Moline, secretary; James Jackson, treasurer; and John Campbell, Adolph Abraham and Will Boese, directors. Mr. Meyers is a thirty-second degree Mason and also belongs to the O. E. S. and A. O. U. W. lodges and the Presbyterian church.

WALTER W. HALL (1908), of Pipestone, who is associated with C. G. Tabor in the conduct of the Hall & Tabor meat market, is a native of the Badger state. He is the son of William Hall, a Vermonter by birth, who died in 1905, and of Anna Hall, a native of Maine. The mother is still living and resides at Stevens Point, Wisconsin.

The date of the birth of our subject was August 5, 1869. He attended the schools of Portage county until he was fourteen years of age. Then the family moved to Pierre, South Dakota, and there Walter grew to manhood. At the age of twenty he moved to Blunt, South Dakota, and for ten years conducted the butcher shop he established at the time of locating there. He then returned to Pierre, where he re-

mained six years, working at his trade and dealing in stock. We next find Mr. Hall at Bellefourche, South Dakota, where he was in business two years. Returning to his former home at Blunt, he was a stock buyer for two years, then turned his attention to the hotel business at Fort Pierre. He was the proprietor of a hotel at Clark, South Dakota, for two years prior to moving to Pipestone in August, 1908. He at once established a meat market, and six months later the firm of Hall & Tabor was organized.

While living at Blunt, South Dakota, on March 20, 1889, W. W. Hall was joined in wedlock to Janet Hoover, who was born in Muscatine, Iowa, November 15, 1870. Two children have blessed this union. Their names are Hazel, born February 13, 1890, and William, born March 9, 1897. Mr. Hall is a member of the K. P. and M. B. A. lodges.

WILLIAM THOMSSSEN (1908), farmer and stock raiser of Elmer township, first saw the light of day in the province of Holsstein, Germany, July 10, 1862. His father, Hans Thomssen, came to this country in 1888 and now lives with his son. His mother, Mary (Sahm) Thomssen, died in the old country when William was six years of age.

The subject of this biography was reared on the farm and educated in the common schools of his native land. He severed home ties at the age of nineteen years and immigrated to the United States. He was employed in a brick yard at Perth Amboy, New Jersey, for a year, then went to Davenport, Iowa, which was his home for the next ten years. He was employed the while in a syrup refinery. Mr. Thomssen's next move was to become a Minnesota farmer. For ten years following 1893, he was a resident of Middletown township, Jackson county. While there he served eight years on the board of supervisors and for part of that period was chairman of the board. He also held office in his school district.

From Jackson county our subject moved to Mower county in 1903 and there farmed until making settlement in Pipestone county three years ago. He rents and farms the east half of section 19, Elmer. He raises stock of the best grade.

At Davenport, Iowa, on March 22, 1884, Mr. Thomssen was married to Liza Rasch, who was born in Schleswig, Holstein, Germany, July 10, 1862, and who came to America twenty years later. Mr. and Mrs. Thomssen are the parents of the following named eleven children: Mamie (Mrs. Henry Rosenbrook), of Beardsley, Minnesota, born February 19, 1885; Freda, born August 7, 1886; Alfred born June 30, 1888; Willie, born March 19, 1890; Henry, born March 8, 1892; Annie, born March 21, 1894; Charlie, born October 12, 1895; Harry, born August 26, 1897; Arthur, born April 10, 1899; Ella, born May 12, 1901; and Emma, born April 27, 1903. The five eldest children were born in Davenport, the next five in Jackson county and Emma in Mower county. The family are members of the German Lutheran church of Trosky.

HENRY K. HOLVIG (1900). The story of the career of a self-made man is always interesting and is a source of inspiration to the youth born amid adverse circumstances and forced to make his way through life by unaided efforts. Such is the case with Henry K. Holvig. The family were poor and there was a large number of children dependent upon the sacrificing parents. From small beginnings Mr. Holvig has prospered and he now takes his stand among the successful business men of Jasper.

Henry Holvig is a native of Iowa and was born in Winneshiek county on August 3, 1874. His father, Knute, and his mother, Isabelle (Holverson) Holvig, came to the United States from Norway in 1861. They homesteaded in Moody county, South Dakota, in 1877, and there Knute Holvig died at the age of fifty-two years. His wife lives in Jasper with her son.

When a child of three years, Henry accompanied his parents to the South Dakota home. The journey, long and tedious, was made in a prairie schooner. In that new country he grew to manhood. He attended the district schools, and later through his own efforts for several years was a student at Augustana college, Canton, South Dakota. His education was supplemented by a course in the St. Paul Business college. His school days

over, for several falls he worked with a threshing company and then for one year was a street car-conductor in St. Paul.

In 1900 Mr. Holvig settled in Jasper. For a year he clerked in the store of Struble & Teslow. As the result of frugal industry, in a few years he was able to buy them out, and he conducted the mercantile business under his own name until 1910. Then he organized the Farmers Co-operative Mercantile company and merged his business with the larger concern. The company is capitalized at \$6000. Mr. Holvig is the holder of the majority stock and is the active manager of the business. The other officers of the company are: Marcus Nelson, president; John J. Aaker, vice president; C. Engebretson, treasurer; Eli Iverson, secretary. The board of directors consists of Robert Iverson, Olie Eniong, H. Helgeson and T. Ausen. The large stone block which houses the business is the property of Mr. Holvig.

May 18, 1904, is the date of the marriage of Mr. Hovig to Hattie Olson, who was born in Minnehaha county, South Dakota, on August 5, 1880. The ceremony took place in Jasper. To them one son, Kennet, was born on January 28, 1910. For two terms Mr. Holvig served on the village council of Jasper.

FRED FORD (1899) farms the northwest quarter of section 30, Troy township, land which is owned by his father, John Ford, now of Wenatchee, Washington. His mother, Sarah (Batch) Ford, died in 1901 in Pipestone county.

Fred Ford was born in Yorkshire, England, May 16, 1884. He was nine months of age when the family located on American soil, in Stark county, Illinois. Just before Fred's fifteenth birthday the Fords made settlement in Pipestone county, the father having become the owner of the land in Troy already described. Our subject secured his education in the village school of Osceola, Illinois, and later in the district schools of Troy township. He lived on the home farm until after the death of his mother in 1901; then he went to Illinois to be employed for a year at farm labor. The following two years we find him working in a lively barn and later

a machine shop in Newton, Iowa. Mr. Ford then returned to Pipestone county and since the spring of 1909 has farmed on his present location.

IRA LOUIS DEMARY (1907) is the manager of the business of the Farmers Co-operative company, of Pipestone, dealers in grain, coal and seeds. This company was organized and incorporated in 1905 with the following first officers and board of directors: C. C. Cunningham, president; A. E. Rydell, vice president; G. E. Sellers, secretary; Corry Ridgway, treasurer; A. Barclay and W. P. Russell. The capital stock of \$10,000, was divided into 400 shares of \$25 each. The present officers are Charles Rebman, president; L. V. Ackermann, vice president; Thomas McQuoid, secretary; A. E. Rydell, treasurer; and these mentioned together with John Morgan, J. E. Morgan and John Telford constitute the board of directors.

Our subject is the son of Alfred Demary and the second in a family of five children, the names of the others being Albert E., Alice M., Harry N. and Jennie E. Alfred Demary is a native of Canada, who, at the age of twenty-four, moved to LeMars, Iowa, where he married Harriett M. Redmond, a Minnesotan by birth. He now lives at Jackson, Nebraska.

It was at LeMars, on November 16, 1882, that Ira Louis Demary was born. He was educated in the public schools, later at Western Union college, at LeMars, then pursued a course in the mechanical department of Iowa State college, at Ames. He was employed for a time in machine shops in Sioux City and LeMars, followed other occupations, and then secured his first employment in the grain business at LeMars. In August, 1907, Mr. Demary moved to Ihlen, Pipestone county, where he managed the farmers' elevator for two years prior to accepting his present position in Pipestone.

At Seney, Iowa, on December 4, 1907, Mr. Demary was married to Ina Penning, and to these parents have been born two daughters: Luella J., who was born January 28, 1909, and Clara E., born January 9, 1910. Our subject is a member of the M. W. A., Yeomen and Masonic lodges.

JOHN S. JOHNSON (1905), of Eden township, was born in Tysnes, Bergen, Norway, on the second of April, 1868, the son of John and Christie (Eachland) Johnson. The year following his birth, when he was eighteen months of age, the Johnson family departed from the land of the Norse and made settlement in the new world, locating in Clinton county, Iowa.

The father secured employment on a farm in that Iowa county but lived only until 1871, our subject being three years of age at the time of this family loss. With her family of six sons and one daughter, the widowed mother moved to Story county, Iowa, where she rented land and, with the aid of her older sons, engaged in farming. John assisted with the work on the home farm until 1897, when he became the owner of a 120 acre farm in Story county and set up in the occupation for himself. Disposing of his Iowa real estate in 1905, he moved to Pipestone county. For two years he farmed rented land, then bought the place whereon he now lives, the southeast quarter of section 16, Eden. Mr. Johnson is an extensive breeder of high grade stock. He is a shareholder in the Farmers elevator at Ihlen and a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

In Eden township, on January 8, 1902, occurred the marriage of John S. Johnson to Julia Dalland, a native of Iowa and the daughter of Oliver and Bertha (Olson) Dalland, both of whom originally came from Norway. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are the parents of three children: Clifford, Beatrice and Herbert.

GUS M. PETERSON (1894) is the junior member of the firm of G. Peterson & Sons, general merchants of Jasper. He is one of a family of five children, the son of Gilbert Peterson, a native of Christiania, Norway. The other four children of the family are Julius P., Clarence, Leonard A. and Mellie.

Gus was born in Granger, Minnesota, October 1, 1880, and that was his home until 1894, when he accompanied the family to Jasper. His early education was received in the schools at Granger, and his schooling was completed in the public schools of Jasper. After leaving school, he clerked

for a short time in a general store, and then for three years he was employed in the Journal office. In 1903 he was taken into the firm of G. Peterson & Sons, which prior to that time consisted of his father and brother, Julius P. Since then he has been actively engaged in the business.

In 1910 he was elected village recorder. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and in 1910 served as the chancellor commander of the lodge.

BRAMWELL A. TURNBULL (1908), shoemaker of Pipestone, is a native of the Isle of Man, as were also his parents, Richard and Catherine (Collister) Turnbull. The former is of Scotch-English parentage, while the mother comes from a family who have for several generations inhabited the little island principality. Both parents are still living at the ripe old ages of eighty and seventy-seven years, respectively, and reside at Belle Plaine, Iowa. Our subject is the only surviving son in a family of two children. A brother, Edward, succumbed to a sunstroke in Tama county, Iowa, nineteen years ago.

Bramwell A. Turnbull was born August 25, 1860. He received an early education in the land of his birth and at the age of twelve immigrated with his parents to the United States. The family located on a farm in Tama county, Iowa, where Bramwell lived until after his twenty-second birthday. He then went to Belle Plaine, Iowa, where he learned the trades of harness and shoe-making and conducted a shop of his own in that place for many years. On leaving that place, he went to Chicago, and from there two years later, to Winnebago City, Minnesota, where he was a shoe merchant. In 1908 Mr. Turnbull settled in Pipestone and took over the shoe shop of Barney Nedham, which he is now conducting.

While residing in Belle Plaine Mr Turnbull took an active interest in the affairs of the municipality. He served on the city council, was city clerk, and was also a justice of peace. He was for fifteen years a leading member of the volunteer fire department, of which he was the chief during the last several years of his residence there. He joined Belle Plaine Lodge No.

151, I. O. O. F., and passed successively through all the higher chairs of the order. He was the past commander of the lodge for four years. On removing to Winnebago City he transferred his membership to the lodge at that place. He is now the district grand master and is a member of Hope Lodge No. 89, of Pipestone.

Our subject has been twice married. In 1885, at Chicago, Mr. Turnbull was married to Josie Woodward, who died in 1901. One son, James B., an electrical engineer in Chicago, was born to this union. In Chicago, on February 23, 1903, his marriage to Gertrude S. Fargo occurred. Mrs. Turnbull is a native of Ohio and before her marriage was connected with the Garfield Park sanitarium, Chicago, as a trained nurse. They have two daughters: Catherine F., born in Winnebago City on March 25, 1904, and Mona G., born in the same place on October 1, 1906.

CHARLES J. DOCK (1889) has been a resident of Jasper for eight years. Coming to the village in 1903, he established the first pool and billiard hall and ten pin alley, and it is in the conduct of that business that he is now engaged.

He is the son of Fred and Elizabeth Dock, both of whom were born in Germany. They came to the United States when fifteen and twelve years of age, respectively. He settled in New York at first, and she located in Iowa. They were married in Clayton county, Iowa, which they made their home until 1882. They came to Pipestone county in 1889 and settled on section 19, Eden township. He died there April 21, 1904, at the age of seventy-one years. The mother is still living, making her home with her son in Jasper. There are ten living children from this union. They are John, Carrie (Mrs. William Ihde), Charles J., Fred, William, George, Amelia (Mrs. Ben Halvig), Albert, Ella (Mrs. Graner Redding) and Frank.

Charles J. Dock was born in Clayton county, Iowa, July 4, 1866. That was his home for the first eighteen years of his life. He grew up on a farm and received his education in the district schools. He moved with his parents to Benton county, Iowa, where he assisted his father in the

management of the farm. The family came to Pipestone county in 1889. For the first six years Charles rented land in Eden township and engaged in farming for himself. In 1903 he forsook country life and set up in his present business in Jasper. From 1906 to 1908 he conducted a saloon in the same building in which his billiard hall was located, but during the latter year he closed it, and since has devoted himself exclusively to his original line of business. He carries a full line of soft drinks, cigars, etc.

While a resident of Eden township, Mr. Dock served two years as assessor and for two years was the school clerk. Charles is unmarried and lives with his mother. He owns residence property and has an interest in the home farm.

CORNELIUS CHRISTIANSEN (1902), farmer and stock raiser of Grange township, is a native of Grant county, Wisconsin. He was born on May 3, 1870, the son of Ever and Netia A. (Brekke) Christiansen, who came originally from Norway. On his father's Wisconsin farm Cornelius grew to manhood. He assisted at home until twenty-seven years of age, then bought land in Grant county and commenced farming on his own account. In 1902 Mr. Christiansen moved to Pipestone county and rented the north half of section 21, Grange, which he later bought and upon which he has since made his home. He is an extensive breeder of high grade stock, making a specialty of Polled Angus cattle, Poland China hogs and Shropshire sheep.

In Grant county, Wisconsin, on June 5, 1882, our subject was joined in marriage to Elizabeth P. Olson, who is a native of that county. She is the daughter of Christopher C. and Bertha (Sage) Olson, both natives of Norway. Two children, Elmer C. and Laura M., have been born to these parents. Mr. Christiansen is a member of the church of the Seventh Day Adventists.

CHARLES R. RIPLEY (1899), prominent agriculturist of Burke township, is a native of the Empire state. The son of Eugene and Julia (Harrington) Ripley, his birth

occurred in Otsego county April 10, 1870. As an infant Charles moved with his parents from New York to Lyon county, Iowa, where the father had invested in land. There he acquired his schooling and grew to manhood. At the age of twenty years our subject bought an eighty acre farm in Lyon county, which he conducted until 1899, when, on disposing of the same, he moved to Pipestone county and came into possession of his present up-to-date farm, the southwest quarter of section 20, Burke. Mr. Ripley is a successful stock breeder and raises especially cattle, sheep and hogs. He is a member of the M. W. A. and R. N. A. lodges and the Methodist church.

In Lyon county, Iowa, on July 4, 1890, Charles R. Ripley was united in marriage to Minnie V. Bridge, a native of Benton county, Iowa. She was born November 25, 1871, the daughter of Joseph Bridge, a native of England, and Mary (Waterman) Bridge, who was born in New York. Mr. and Mrs. Ripley are parents of the following named children: Ray, Clifford, Harley, Bertan, Eldred, Ethel, Mabel and Lillian.

EUGENE G. McKEOWN (1909), a practicing physician and surgeon of Edgerton, was born in Brookings county, South Dakota, October 10, 1881, and is the son of John T. and Katie (Souther) McKeown, natives of Illinois and Minnesota, respectively. The parents are now residents of Chatfield, Minnesota.

When Dr. McKeown was six years of age he moved with his parents to Chatfield, Minnesota, where he passed his youth. After graduating from the Chatfield high school, he was for two years a student at Carleton college, following which he taught school for two years at McGregor, Iowa. Deciding to take up the study of medicine, he matriculated at the College of Medicine of the university of Minnesota, from which he was granted a diploma in 1909. He was for five months an interne at the City hospital of St. Paul and in July, 1909, commenced practice in Edgerton. Dr. McKeown is a Knight of Pythias and a Mason.

At Delhi, Iowa, on the fifth of August, 1909, Dr. McKeown was united in marriage to Mary E. Burton, who was born in the town of her marriage March 28, 1876.

WINFRED A. GREEN (1910) is the senior member of the progressive Pipestone real estate firm of Green & Hyde, whose offices are in Commerce block. A native of Albion, Dane county, Wisconsin, he was born August 29, 1875, the son of Jesse S. and Elmyra (Burdic) Green, now residents of Fordland, Missouri. The former named parent is a native of Wisconsin, while the mother is a native of New York.

Winfred was educated and passed the first nineteen years of his life in the village of his birth. He went to Missouri and for the following eight years was engaged in the hardware business in the city of Springfield. He then became a traveling salesman with the wholesale hardware firm of Hibbard, Spencer, Bartlett & Co., of Chicago, and during his four years of service made his headquarters at Mitchell, South Dakota. In January, 1909, Mr. Green moved to Gentry, Arkansas, where he became associated with Robert A. Hyde in the real estate business. The firm moved its headquarters from Gentry to Pipestone in the spring of 1910. Our subject holds membership in the I. O. O. F., M. W. A. and U. C. T. organizations.

The marriage of Winfred A. Green to May D. Delzell occurred at Henderson, Missouri, on February 9, 1899. Mrs. Green was born in that Missouri town. They are the parents of two children, Helen and Harold.

GEORGE W. FLEMING (1905), of Elmer township, is a Pennsylvanian by birth. He was born in Warren county September 30, 1860, the son of Buel and Rachel (Wollison) Fleming. George was in his sixth year when the Fleming family departed from the Keystone state and located on a farm in Knox county, Illinois. They farmed there six years, then moved to Missouri, where they were similarly engaged eight years. Our subject next became a resident of Iowa. He lived in Adair county seven years, and for fifteen years prior to making settlement in Pipestone county he was a Lyon county, Iowa, farmer. Mr. Fleming first rented land in Gray township, but since 1908 he has rented and farmed the east half of section 14, Elmer. He raises cattle and hogs extensively.

At Harlan, Iowa, on October 28, 1884, the subject of this biography was married to Winnie Mann, who was born August 18, 1865, the daughter of Oliver and Kate (Bush) Mann. Mr. and Mrs. Fleming are the parents of nine children, six sons and three daughters, named as follows: Mabel E., Oliver S., Walter F., Hazel V., George D., Lafayette P., Roy E., Edward D. and Carrie L. Mr. Fleming holds membership in the lodge of the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

IRA GOODRICH (1905), of Trosky, first saw the light of day in Stephenson county, Illinois, February 8, 1874, and that continued to be his home until coming to Trosky in 1905. His father, Jerome Goodrich, died November 3, 1903, at the age of fifty-nine years; his mother, Sarah (Kleckner) Goodrich, is still living at the age of sixty-three and resides in Rockton, Illinois.

Ira was educated in the district schools of his native county and assisted with the work on the home farm until coming of age. From the time of reaching his majority until 1901 he farmed on his own account. Then he moved to the town of Orangeville and conducted a hotel and livery for three years. Six years ago he located in Trosky, bought the livery business of B. F. Rice and the barn and residence of L. B. Kenyon and has gained a deserved reputation for first class service. He has been the village constable for the past four years and was the marshal for a time. Mr. Goodrich is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen and Mystic Workers of the World orders.

While a resident of Stephenson county, Illinois, on December 26, 1895, Ira Goodrich was married to Edith Frankenberger, who was born in that county December 19, 1879, the daughter of A. W. and Sarah Frankenberger. Mr. and Mrs. Goodrich have three children: Vera, Arthur and Kenneth.

HERMAN SPETH (1903), of Pipestone, was born in Germany the twelfth day of December, 1876. As an infant he came to the United States with his parents and located with them in Tama county, Iowa. He severed home ties on attaining his ma-

jority and went to O'Brien county, where he engaged in farming four years. Mr. Speth then moved to Marshall, Minnesota, where he tended bar. He moved to Pipestone in 1903 and was successively employed in the same occupation by G. Wahler, Tim Murphy and Peter Clausen. On May 10, 1910, he bought the Calumet bar from Mr. Wahler and has since been engaged in the saloon business for himself.

Our subject has four sisters and the same number of brothers, their names being Henry, Ferdinand, Emil, Johanas, Lena, Trena, Minnie and Anna. Mr. Speth was married in O'Brien county, Iowa, September 10, 1909, to Martha Boes, a native of Minnesota.

JOHN W. EMERY (1902) commenced his career as a Pipestone county farmer in the spring of 1910, when he moved to the farm he now conducts, the southeast quarter of section 15, Troy township. He engages extensively in the dairy business and raises poultry and hogs.

The father of our subject, John C. Emery, a native of Vermont, married Ellen J. Atwood, of New York, and they homesteaded in Sioux county, Iowa, in 1871. There John W. Emery of this review was born July 12, 1876. He resided on the home farm until twenty-two years of age and then went to Nebraska. He was employed successively in Wayne and Burt counties by the Edwards & Bradford Lumber company. He was next located for a year at Onawa, Iowa, from which place he moved to the city of Pipestone in 1902. Mr. Emery was employed first as drayman, then as painter and paper-hanger, then for three and one-half years previous to engaging in farming he was employed by the Laird-Norton Lumber company at Pipestone and Cazenovia. He is a member of the M. W. A. lodge.

Barbara L. Klipping, who was born at Freeport, Illinois, April 12, 1883, the daughter of Charles H. and Louise (Goetze) Klipping, became the wife of John W. Emery at Onawa, Iowa, February 28, 1900. They are the parents of three children: Harold L., born April 9, 1901; John C., born August 20, 1903; and Ava L., born July 19, 1905.

FRANK M. TUSIA (1909) takes care of the interests of the Minnesota & Western Grain company at Holland, of which village he has been a resident since the fall of 1909. He is the fourth eldest in a family of eight children, the others of whom are Julia, Annie, John, Anton, Joe, Jim and Charlie, who were born to John and Maria (Trautna) Tusia, natives of Austria. They came to the United States in their youth and were married in Chicago, where the family lived until 1883. Then settlement was made in Jackson county, Minnesota, where Mrs. Tusia still resides on the old farm in Hunter township. Her husband has been dead about twenty years. Our subject also has a half sister, Mary Sturmer.

The birth of Frank M. Tusia occurred in the city of Chicago on May 25, 1878. Five years later he moved with his parents to Jackson county, Minnesota. His father died when Frank was in his fourteenth year, and since then our subject has had control of his own course in life. He was variously employed in the village of Jackson five years, then was located at Lakefield. During the winter months he assisted in the W. W. Cargill elevator and during the summer seasons was employed by L. O. Hickok, a builder of elevators and mills, an occupation he followed seven seasons. He then became buyer for the Harrington Grain company, first at Egan, South Dakota, and later at Lester, Iowa. From the latter place he moved to Holland to assume the duties of his present position.

Frank M. Tusia was united in marriage in 1903 at Egan, South Dakota to Lillian Lanning, who was born in that place on September 10, 1879. This union has been blessed by the birth of three children, as follows: Thelma, born April 16, 1904; Martin, born June 2, 1906; and Libby, born August 8, 1908.

BYRON L. AVERY (1904), farmer and stock raiser of Rock township, is a native Iowan. He was born January 29, 1883, on the Marshall county homestead of his father, Byron N. Avery. His father, a native of Vermont, died January 25, 1889. Byron N. Avery married Gertrude Mooers, who was born in Illinois and came of old Penn-

sylvania Dutch stock. Mrs. Avery was married a second time to G. A. Forbes and now resides in Nebraska.

When nine years old Byron L. Avery of this sketch moved with his mother to Merville, Woodbury county, Iowa, and was educated in the schools of that village. At the age of fifteen years he went to Fort Dodge, where he remained three years. He learned the printer's trade in the office of the Daily Messenger, and later was employed in a bicycle repair shop. From Fort Dodge Byron went to Sioux City, where he was connected with the American Express company for several years. He first came to Pipestone county in the spring of 1904 to work in the Ruthton flouring mill. He resided in that village until the beginning of the following year, then returned to Sioux City to accept a city salesmanship with the W. L. Ogden Commission company. In the fall of 1907 Mr. Avery rented land and became a Pipestone county farmer and stock raiser, and since the fall of 1910 has been located on section 17, Rock, where he farms 240 acres of land. He served one term as clerk of school district No. 30.

In the village of Holland, on January 17, 1905, our subject was joined in marriage to May, the daughter of R. M. Doughty, of Holland. May Doughty was born in Pipestone county June 24, 1886. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Avery, as follows: Nettie May, born January 7, 1906; and Noel Byron and Milton Doughty (twins), born February 8, 1909. Mr. Avery holds membership in Woodlawn Camp No. 2, Woodmen of the World, of Sioux City.

EDWARD F. VINTON (1909), proprietor of the Pipestone five and ten cent store, has been a resident of that city since April, 1909. His business is located in the Caldwell block on Main street, and he carries a complete and seasonable stock of novelties and notions.

Mr. Vinton is a native of New York state and was born in Cattaraugus county on the sixth of April, 1867. When five years of age he moved from the east with his parents and located with them at Eau Claire, Wisconsin. In that city he was educated and grew to manhood. On leaving home he

became connected with several different show troupes and traveled from one end of the country to the other. He left the road in Colorado, and for four years was engaged in mining at Cripple Creek. He then moved to Victor, Colorado, where he passed a competitive examination and received an appointment as a city mail carrier, an occupation he followed for ten years. Returning to his old home at Eau Claire, he conducted a moving picture theater for a year previous to settling in Pipestone.

In Denver, Colorado, on November 9, 1905, our subject was married to Jennie Cameron, a native of Ottawa, Canada. Mr. and Mrs. Vinton have two daughters: Hattie, born February 4, 1907, and Lillian, born May 16, 1909. Mr. Vinton holds membership in the lodges of the Eagles and Elks at Victor, Colorado, the Knights of Pythias at Eau Claire, and the Modern Woodmen, the Yeomen and the Blue Lodge and the Chapter of the Masonic order at Pipestone, and the Scottish Rite of St. Paul and Shrine.

CHRISTIAN AMUNDSEN (1900) a progressive farmer of Fountain Prairie township, is a Norwegian by birth. His father, Hans Amundsen, followed the occupation of cabinet maker in the city of Christiania, where our subject was born on the first of March, 1859. Hans Amundsen, and also his wife, Nicoline (Severson) Amundsen, are both buried in the land of the midnight sun.

Until he was seventeen years of age Christian was a student in the Norwegian common schools. He then took to the sea and for thirteen years was a sailor in the merchant marine, during that time touching many of the leading ports of the world, especially those of England, France, Spain and the United States. In 1888 he made a permanent settlement in the new world. He located in Sioux City, Iowa, where he worked at his trade of carpenter until 1900, when he became a Pipestone county farmer. He lives on and owns the northwest quarter of section 1, Fountain Prairie township. Mr. Amundsen raises cattle and hogs to a large extent. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

In Skien, Norway, on April 26, 1885, the subject of this biography was married to Annie Samuelson, the daughter of Severt and Samuel Samuelson. Mrs. Amundsen's birth occurred January 4, 1858. The following six children have been born to these parents: Christina, born in Norway December 5, 1887; Harry, born October 25, 1889; Hedvig, born January 8, 1891; Inez, born April 1, 1894; Yngva, born April 21, 1896; and Theo, born April 3, 1901. Theo was born in Pipestone county and the four remaining children are natives of Sioux City.

FRANK P. JACOBSON (1894), a leading blacksmith of Ruthton, has been a resident of that progressive community for the past seventeen years. A native of Denmark, he was born July 8, 1864, the son of Jacob N. and Metta M. (Franson) Jensen. Both parents are deceased.

At an early age Frank became proficient at the blacksmith's trade, a line of work he followed in his native land until coming to America at the age of twenty-one. He was located in LaCrosse, Wisconsin for two years and then moved to Minneapolis. For a number of years he was the proprietor of a blacksmith shop in that city, leaving in 1894 to establish his present business in Ruthton. In the year mentioned he bought the shop of P. N. Millenbeck. Mr. Jacobson owns both his business building and residence property. He is an ex-president of the village council, of which he was a member for two terms. He belongs to the Danish Lutheran church and to the Modern Woodmen lodge.

Frank P. Jacobson was married at Osakis, Minnesota, on July 3, 1892, to Lizzie Miller. To these parents has been born one daughter, Laura. She was born July 27, 1893.

ALFRED M. KENDAHL (1909), physician and surgeon, has been a resident of Jasper for a comparatively short time, but in that time he has met with success and built up a healthy practice. He is the son of Anton and Martha (Andersen) Kendahl, who reside in Norway. They are the parents of seven children: Harold, Andrew, John, Alfred, Carrie, Hans and Hilga.

Laurvix, Norway, is the native place of Alfred Kendahl. It was on January 8, 1878, that he first saw the light of day. He secured a good high school education in the motherland. After leaving school, he entered the employ of a large mercantile concern in Christiania, where he remained until 1900, the year of his arrival to the United States. He located in Chicago and for several years was a clerk in Marshall Field & Co.'s large department store.

To carry out an early ambition to become a physician, in the fall of 1905 he matriculated in the medical department of the university of Illinois, graduating from the course four years later. For a year, beginning in 1908, Dr. Kendahl served as an interne in one of Chicago's leading hospitals. In October, 1909, he settled in Jasper for the practice of his profession. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and of the Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen of America lodges. He is also a member of and medical examiner for the Northwestern National Life Insurance company and the Royal Neighbors of America.

EMIL A. EKERN (1910) is the manager of the Airlie Elevator company, a farmers co-operative concern incorporated in 1905. The company deals in grain, seeds, salt and coal and has recently bought the lumber yard at Airlie, which will be restocked. The officers at present are: President, Joseph Crawford; secretary, H. J. Farmer; treasurer, E. W. Davies. The board of managers consists of S. J. Carson, Gust Sundt, Albert Ellefson, Mark Ekern, E. S. Butman and William Daily.

Emil A. Ekern is the son of Mark and Mary (Fremstad) Ekern, natives of Norway. They were married at Whitehall, Wisconsin, and came as pioneers to Moody county, South Dakota, where they still reside on the old homestead. There are eleven children in the Ekern family, who, besides our subject, are Helmer O., Melvin I., Carl J., Willie L., Inga, Anna, Nettie, Emma, Albert and Robert.

Emil was born on the homestead in Lone Rock township on November 28, 1882. He was educated in the district schools of Moody county and resided on the parental

farm until July, 1910, when he assumed his duties at Airlie with the elevator company, of which he is one of the stockholders. He served for three terms as assessor of Lone Rock township. Mr. Ekern is a member of the United Norwegian Lutheran church. He was married October 26, 1906, to Regina Roshien, also a native of Moody county. Mrs. Ekern died January 8, 1907, at the age of twenty years. One son, Alfred M., was born to this union.

HANS KLINKER (1908), proprietor of the Trosky livery and feed barn since the fall of 1910, was formerly an Elmer township farmer. A native of Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, he was born July 29, 1875, a son of Hans and Catherine (Kittelsson) Klinker. Hans attended the common schools of his native land until seventeen years of age, then crossed the broad Atlantic to seek his fortune in the new world. He was employed at farm labor for two years near Huron, South Dakota, then for a number of years was located in different parts of South Dakota, Nebraska, Montana and Idaho. Mr. Klinker finally homesteaded in Wyoming and farmed in that state for thirteen years. Leaving the west in 1908, he located in Pipestone county. He rented and farmed the southeast quarter of section 12, Elmer, until establishing his residence in Trosky.

The subject of this biography was married in Tama county, Iowa, November 22, 1901, to Emma M. Arp, also a native of Germany. She was born February 21, 1882, the daughter of Henry and Bertha (Shoel) Arp. Three sons and two daughters have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Klinker, as follows: Henry H., born September 3, 1902; Herman C., born April 25, 1904; Edward, born September 31, 1905; Hilda C., born December 8, 1907; and Minnie B., born May 3, 1910.

WILLIAM F. MATSON (1901) manages the Bennett Grain company at Edgerton. He is a native of Morgan county, Ohio, and was born October 17, 1854, the son of Aaron and Anna Matson, natives of Ohio and Pennsylvania, respectively. Aaron Matson died in 1888, but his wife, the mother of

our subject, still resides at Fairmont, Minnesota, and has witnessed years to the number of four score. There were seven children in the family, namely: William F., Charles, Lillian, George, Ella, Frank and Pearl.

In early childhood William moved with his parents to Martin county, Minnesota. At the age of eighteen years he left home to face the world. For four years after his twenty-second birthday he conducted a hotel in Fairmont, which was before the railroad had built to that town. While there he was employed as assistant grain buyer in an elevator for a period; then he moved to Miner county, South Dakota, where he lived twelve years, employed by the Hodges & Hyde Elevator company and later by the S. Y. Hyde Elevator company. He returned to Fairmont to buy grain for the last named firm, and there he remained until 1901, when he located in Edgerton, to assume the duties of his present position. He is a member of the K. P. lodge.

Mr. Matson was married at Fairmont on December 16, 1876, to Emma L. Snow, who was born in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, December 20, 1854. Mrs. Matson died November 18, 1909, at the age of fifty-five years. One son was born to this union: Roy S., who is in the employ of the Bennett Grain company at Jackson, Minnesota. Mr. Matson owns his home in Edgerton.

GEORGE M. STRECKER (1909) moved to Bennet, Colorado, in September, 1910, to file on a homestead claim. Prior to that he was an Osborne township farmer, and he still owns, in partnership with his brother, land in that precinct, the northeast quarter of section 23. He was born just over the line from Pipestone county, in Moulton township, Murray county, May 25, 1889. His father, John Strecker, a native of Germany, came to America in 1870 and was an early settler of Murray county. John Strecker died in Edgerton in the fall of 1909. His wife Mary (Gesche) Hoffman Strecker, survives her husband and resides in Edgerton.

George resided on the parental homestead in Murray county until 1908. He received his education in the district schools and for one year was a student in the school at

Edgerton. In February, 1908, he rented land in Murray county and commenced farming on his own account. There he lived until December, 1909, when he moved to his Pipestone county land. Before moving to Colorado he erected several substantial buildings thereon.

At Edgerton, on September 8, 1908, Mr. Strecker was united in marriage to May Millis, who was born near Chandler, Murray county, August 26, 1889. A son, Melvin George, was born to these parents January 13, 1910. Mrs. Strecker is the daughter of Frank and Fronia Millis. Her mother accompanied the family in their removal to Colorado.

MELVIN M. LAWHEAD (1894), the landlord of Jasper's up-to-date hotel for the past ten years, was born in Chebanse, Iroquois county, Illinois, on the seventeenth day of September, 1862. He is the son of Alfred C. and Katherine (Flint) Lawhead, the former a native of Ohio, while New Jersey was the birthplace of the mother. Both parents have been dead for several years.

When Melvin was about nine or ten years of age, the family moved to Onargo, Illinois, where he secured his education in the public schools and grew to manhood. The first seventeen years after arriving at his majority were spent in farming in several different states. He started out in his home county, remained one year, and he then heeded a call to Saline county, Nebraska. He worked out on a farm for a year and the next year rented a place for himself in Adams county, of the same state. Hitchcock, Nebraska, was his next home. He took a homestead claim near there and remained until June 1, 1894. Then he located in Rock county and remained until the following spring. He cast his fortunes in Moody county, South Dakota, for a year and then returned to Rock county and settled on a farm in Rose Dell township, which he successfully conducted four years. Finally abandoning country life, he moved to Jasper and for one year operated a restaurant. In 1901 he came into the possession of the hotel which he has since built up to its present day prosperity. The

property was purchased from E. P. LeSuer. It is a thirty-five room hostelry, modern in every respect.

Mr. Lawhead was married at Culbertson, Nebraska, on December 14, 1889, to Lena Seeman, a native of Germany, born September 21, 1871. She came to America when a girl of twelve years. One child, Katherine W., was born to Mr. and Mrs. Lawhead, on October 10, 1895. Mr. Lawhead is a member of the M. W. A. lodge and the Merchants Casualty company.

BEN D. MARTINSON (1892) is a well known liveryman of Ruthton, a business in which he has been engaged for the past three years. He is the second son in a family of five children—the names of the others being Ludwig, Al, Lena and Henry—who were born to Henry and Pernellia Martinson. The father and mother are natives of Norway, have lived in America for nearly fifty years, and are now residents of Parker, South Dakota.

In Mason City, Iowa, on November 27, 1870, Ben D. Martinson was born. In early childhood he moved with his parents to Council Bluffs, Iowa, lived with them four years in Kansas, and later in Minneapolis and in North and South Dakota, and finally returned to Iowa. The removals were necessitated by his father's occupation, that of railroading. The father later became a farmer in Wright county, Iowa, and was located near the town of Belmont. There Ben lived until after his twenty-second birthday, leaving home at that time to locate in Ruthton. For three years he was engaged in the well drilling business and then farmed in Aetna township until 1901. For seven years thereafter he was absent from Pipestone county, residing on his farm in Lincoln county. In 1908 Mr. Martinson returned to Ruthton and became the owner of the livery business he now successfully conducts.

On November 29, 1895, our subject was married to Alma Johnson, who was born in Winona, Minnesota, on May 16, 1877. The ceremony was solemnized in Ruthton. Mr. and Mrs. Martinson are the parents of two children: Mildred, born March 9, 1899, and Merle, born March 1, 1901.

FRANCIS M. KERR (1902), in partnership with his brother Wesley, farms the south half of section 10, Grange township. The brothers raise considerable stock and make a specialty of Poland China hogs.

The son of Nathaniel and Ann (Williams) Kerr, the former a native of the Keystone state, and the latter of West Virginia, Francis M. Kerr of this review was born in Green county, Pennsylvania, May 12, 1866. He was two years of age when the family moved from the east to Muscatine county, Iowa, where it was he grew to manhood and was educated. On attaining his majority he commenced working out at agricultural labor; then, following his marriage, he rented land and commenced his career as an independent farmer. He farmed in Iowa until 1902, the date of his settlement in Pipestone county. Four years prior to locating on his present place, our subject farmed other land in Grange. Mr. Kerr owns stock in the farmers' elevator at Pipestone and is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

While residing in Muscatine county, Iowa, on April 25, 1894, Mr. Kerr was married to Josephine Rogers, a native of that county. She was born March 25, 1865, the daughter of Matthew and Margaret (Kain) Rogers. Mr. and Mrs. Kerr are the parents of four children, Altha J., Irene A., Robert M. and May E.

SAM GRABSCHIED (1906), proprietor of the Bell Clothing store at Pipestone, came to the city five years ago from Vinton, Iowa, to manage the Bell store, then the property of Urbach & Lewis, of that Iowa city. Mr. Grabschied became satisfied that for a business and residence town Pipestone was unrivalled, and with the intention of making it his permanent home he purchased the business from his employers in March, 1909, and has since been the sole proprietor. He carries a large and complete line of clothing, gent's furnishings and footwear.

A native of Austria, our subject was born June 12, 1870, the sixth son in a family of eight children born to Isaac and Ida (Gotthelf) Grabschied, who lived and died in Austria. The names of the other children are Wilhelm, Nathan, Bernhard, Sarah,

Herman, Gustaf and Morris. Sam was sixteen years of age when he bade farewell to native land and undertook the long journey alone to America. He landed in New York City and for two years made that his home, clerking the while. He then drifted westward and finally located in Kansas City, Missouri, where for eight years he clerked in a leading clothing house. He was later similarly employed in Carthage, Missouri, and in Dubuque, Iowa, going from the latter city to Vinton, Iowa, in 1898. He managed the Urbach & Lewis store until establishing his present residence in Pipestone. Mr. Grabschied is a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge.

At Blue Hill, Nebraska, on October 29, 1902, our subject was married to Caroline Mandelbaum, and to this union have been born the following three children: Margaret, born December 14, 1903; Ervin, born in 1905; and Henry, born February 11, 1909. Mrs. Grabschied was born in Chicago and is the daughter of Sol. and Adeline (Weinberg) Mandelbaum, both natives of Germany and still living. They also have one son, Jacob Mandelbaum, of Kansas City.

ROBERT L. ELLS (1910), landlord of the Pipestone hotel, is a Missourian by birth. His nativity occurred in the town of Boonville January 3, 1876, and he is the only son born to C. C. and Betty Maria (Redmon) Ells. Mrs. Ells, also a native of Boonville, died in 1878. The father, C. C. Ells, who was born in Louisville, Kentucky, is a southern farmer and conducts a large plantation at Ellendale, Terrebonne county, Louisiana.

When five years of age our subject moved with his father to Higbee, Missouri, and in the schools of that place and of Salisbury he was educated. As a fifteen year old youth Robert commenced what was to be an extended career in railroad work. He was stationed as telegrapher at the Kirksville, Missouri, station of the Wabash, then commenced a four years' service as station agent for the Milwaukee road at Jefferson, South Dakota. He then became connected with the Northwestern line and was agent at the stations of Schleswig and Wall Lake, Iowa. In June, 1910, Mr. Ells moved to

Pipestone to become operator at the Great Northern depot in that city, a position he held until assuming the management of the Pipestone hotel in October of the same year. He has remodeled the hostelry and made it up-to-date in every particular.

The subject of this review was married at Clifton Hill, Missouri, February 16, 1895, to Cora Mason, a native of Salisbury, Missouri, she having been born there on September 8, 1882. Mr. and Mrs. Ells have two children, Robert Damon and Raymond Henry. Mr. Ells is a member of the Order of Railroad Telegraphers and with his wife belongs to the order of Knights and Ladies of Security.

JOHN H. MEIER (1902), in partnership with his brother, Henry L. Meier, farms the southeast quarter of section 12, Aetna township. He was born the first day of November, 1874, in Bremer county, Iowa. His parents, Christopher C. and Dora (Kuhrt) Meier, both natives of Germany, are deceased. The father died November 28, 1909, and the mother passed away seventeen years before, in 1892. Henry L. Meier is also a native of Bremer county. The date of his birth is March 6, 1873.

John resided in the county of his birth until 1884, when with his parents he moved to Jerauld county, South Dakota. He was educated in the public schools of Sumner, Bremer county, Iowa, and later in the district schools of Jerauld county. On attaining his majority he commenced working out at farm labor, then in 1902 commenced his agricultural career in Pipestone county. He farmed on section 14, Aetna, for three years, then moved to his present location. Mr. Meier devotes considerable attention to the raising of high grade stock. He is affiliated with the M. W. A. lodge at Ruth-ton.

HOLLIE R. PERSINGER (1903), who farms the west half of section 21, Osborne township, is a Kansan by birth. He was born in the town of Long Island on May 16, 1877. His parents were Charles L. and Mary E. (Curl) Persinger, natives of Ohio and of German descent.

The family moved to Mills county, Iowa, when our subject was a little child. A

move was later made to Monona county, the same state, and there he finished his schooling and grew to manhood. He assisted with the cultivation of the home farm until attaining his majority; then, after hiring out for several years, Hollie commenced farming on his own account. His residence in Pipestone county began in 1903. He rented land in Gray township for two years and then moved to the land he now rents in Osborne township. He raises stock, especially cattle and hogs, quite extensively. Mr. Persinger was for two years the treasurer of school district No. 44, in Gray township. He holds membership in the Methodist church and the I. O. O. F. and K. P. lodges.

At Whiting, Iowa, on February 25, 1903, our subject was joined in wedlock to Mary J. Hutchcroft, a native of Sloan, Iowa. She was born September 10, 1881, the daughter of William and Amy (Adbert) Hutchcroft, both natives of the Buckeye state. Mr. and Mrs. Persinger are the parents of four daughters: Wilma, born December 8, 1904; Amy, born September 7, 1906; Grace, born August 31, 1908; and Beulah, born May 23, 1910.

JOHN HOOG (1901) is a prominent business man of Woodstock, where he has resided for the past ten years. He deals in farm implements and coal and, in partnership with J. F. Delaney, buys and ships live stock. He was born across the sea, in Haarlem, Holland, on February 29, 1864. He is the son of Gerard and Bregtje (Van Rossem) Hoog. Gerard Hoog passed away in April, 1895, at the age of sixty-nine years. His wife, the mother of our subject, still resides in Holland, and is in her seventy-seventh year.

John received a careful scholastic training in the land of his birth, which he left at the age of seventeen to come to America. He journeyed to Orange City, Sioux county, Iowa, near which place he farmed for five years. He left that locality to go to San Jose, California, and remained there two years, being connected the while with a fruit orchard. Returning to Iowa, Mr. Hoog established and conducted a tow mill in the town of Boyden until 1894, when he established a similar enterprise at Clara

City, Minnesota. After a year, however, he returned to Boyden and engaged in the general mercantile business for two years. He then became a land owner and farmer of Nobles county, Minnesota, where he resided until 1901. Since that date Woodstock has been his home. Mr. Hoog is a member of the village council and a trustee of the local Presbyterian church. He is an active worker in the Masonic order. He belongs to the Blue Lodge at Lake Wilson and the Chapter at Pipestone.

At Harrison, South Dakota, on February 20, 1894, our subject was married to Theodora Josephina LeCocq, of French descent. She is the daughter of Frank and Mary (Van Goekum) LeCocq. Her grandfather, also named Frank LeCocq, came from France and was one of the founders of the Dutch colony at Pella, Iowa, the birthplace of Mrs. Hoog. To Mr. and Mrs. Hoog the following three children, a son and two daughters, have been born: Gerard A., born December 17, 1894; Mary F., born October 12, 1899; and Beatrice, born October 22, 1903.

HARRY ZORGDRAGER (1907) is the manager of the Holland branch of the Rudloff Lumber company, a position he has held since 1907. A native of Amsterdam, Holland, he was born March 22, 1880, the son of John and Nellie (Swartz) Zorgdrager. The former is now a resident of Archer, Iowa; his wife died July 17, 1894.

Harry came to America from the land of the dykes when he was two years of age. He located with his parents on a farm near Sheldon, Iowa, where he passed his youth. He was educated in the public schools of Sheldon and for a time was a student at the Ames Agricultural college, mastering there the art of horseshoeing. At the age of twenty he went to Pueblo, Colorado, where he was employed at his trade five years. He returned to Iowa, and has since devoted his talents to the lumber business. He was in the employ of the Schoenenan Lumber company, first as second man, then as yard manager, at Alvord, George, Parker, Fairview and other Iowa points. He has been stationed at Holland since he became connected with the Rudloff company.

Harry Zorgdrager was married at Alton,

Iowa, on November 16, 1909, to Genevieve Hein, a native Iowan, having been born at Cherokee on the twenty-second of July, 1883. Our subject holds membership in the lodges of the K. P. at Ruthton, Pipestone and Pueblo, Colorado, and of the Holland lodge of the Modern Woodmen.

FRANK C. HAND (1909), of Hatfield, is the manager of the local cream station operated by the Farmers Co-operative Cream company of Omaha. He is the son of Frank and Mary (Owens) Hand and was born on a farm near Clinton, Iowa, July 10, 1872. His father died in 1907; his mother, Mary (Owens) Hand, is a resident of Bigelow, Nobles county.

At the age of nine years Frank moved with his parents to Sac county, Iowa, and two years later to Brule county, South Dakota, where the father homesteaded. He resided on the home farm until 1890, when he assumed control of his own course in life. He was located in Sioux county, Iowa, for a number of years, going from there to Little Rock, in the same state; then he went to Nobles county, Minnesota, where he farmed from 1894 to 1909, with the exception of a two years' residence in Worthington. He has been employed in his present capacity in Hatfield since 1909.

Frank C. Hand was married at Heron Lake, Jackson county, in April, 1900, to Viola S. Wilson, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. I. N. Wilson, of Worthington, who were early settlers of Nobles county. Mrs. Hand was born in October, 1883. To these parents have been born four children, one of whom, Katie, the only daughter, died in 1902 at the age of three months. The three living sons are Walter, born May 12, 1902; Nicholas, born July 19, 1905; and James, born July 20, 1908. Our subject is a member of the Catholic church and of the Catholic Order of Foresters.

JOSEPH LA VALLA (1905) has been a resident of Edgerton since 1905 and is the junior member of the firm of Uilk & La Valla, proprietors of the leading meat market and butcher business in that town. Of twelve children born to Mitchell and Rosa (Tatro) La Valla, only two sons are now

living: Joseph, of this sketch, and Fred, of Michigan. Both parents were Canadians by birth and were of French descent.

The subject of this biography was born in Wyandotte, Wayne county, Michigan, near Detroit, September 14, 1862. In the first year of his manhood he moved to Minnesota, locating in the village of Adrian. For several years he was employed on farms in that vicinity and then learned the butcher trade in an Adrian shop. For seven years he was the proprietor of a shop in Bryant, South Dakota; then, on account of ill health, he disposed of the business and homesteaded in Ward county, South Dakota. He returned to Bryant and lived there until 1905, when he went to Edgerton and engaged in his chosen business for a year and a half. He engaged in buying and shipping stock until 1908, when he opened the shop he now conducts. He admitted Fred Ulk as a partner in the business in January, 1910.

Mr. La Valla was married in Worthington, Minnesota, on the second of September, 1894, to Tressie Lodehoff. She was born in Ripon, Wisconsin, in January, 1862, but in the early seventies accompanied her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hans Lodehoff, to Nobles county. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. La Valla, namely: Margaret, Edward and Max. Our subject is a member of the M. W. A. and K. P. lodges.

JOHN M. BARTON (1907) engages in farming on section 24, Altona township, of which precinct he has been a resident since 1907. The parents of our subject were Uri and Harriet (Wright) Barton, natives of New York, who at an early day settled in Jackson county, Iowa. There John was born August 2, 1857, and in the district schools of that county he secured an education.

At the age of twenty-three Mr. Barton rented land in his home county and commenced farming on his own account, an occupation he followed there and in Rock county, Minnesota, for four years, until 1895. That year he moved to Lake View, Iowa, of which he was a resident for twelve years. During the first five years in Lake View he followed the trade of buttermaker,

and later was the proprietor of a dray line. On coming to Pipestone county in 1907, Mr. Barton rented the southwest quarter of section 24, and he has lived there since.

In Jackson county, Iowa, on October 23, 1879, our subject was married to Mary Gaddis, a native of that county. She was born January 19, 1860, the daughter of Robert and Deborah (Demming) Gaddis. Mr. and Mrs. Barton are the parents of the following named children: Zada, Ethel, Lulu, Earl, Ray, Edna, Willard, Howard and Donald.

BARNEY F. NAEVE (1904), the proprietor of the Hiawatha saloon at Pipestone, was born in Davenport, Iowa, July 22, 1867, the son of Frederick and Maggie Naeve. Both parents were born in Holstein, Germany. They were married there and immigrated to the United States in 1848. Coming by way of a Mississippi steamboat, they located in Davenport, Iowa, and in that city both lie buried. Besides our subject there were three other children in the family: Mary, of Gladbrook, Iowa; Fred, of Davenport; and Lena, deceased of Sioux City.

Barney F. Naeve attended the public schools of his native city until attaining the age of seventeen years. He then moved to Gladbrook, Iowa, where he finished his schooling, and he was for many years engaged in farming in that locality. Three years prior to locating in Pipestone in 1904, he was a resident of Marshalltown, Iowa. The first four years in Pipestone were passed as a bartender in the saloon of J. C. Crook. Mr. Naeve then bought the saloon business of Mike Hauser and has since conducted it. He is a member of the Pipestone fire department.

Our subject was married at Grundy Center, Iowa, on December 2, 1900, to Emma Meyer, a native of Germany, but who came in early childhood with her parents to this country and located with them in Gladbrook, Iowa. To Mr. and Mrs. Naeve eight children have been born. The oldest son, Earl, died in infancy. The names of the surviving seven are Harold, Walter, Arnold, Kerwood, Hazel, Bernice and Viola. There is another son, Alfred, by a former marriage.

OLE FOSS (1909) is the junior member of the firm of Oihus & Foss, Jasper's dealers in automobiles, in connection with which they maintain an up-to-the-minute garage. Mr. Foss is a native of Fillmore county, Minnesota, the date of his birth being August 15, 1885. For three years that was his home, and from there he moved with his family to Pipestone county, where the next three years were spent. Again a move was made, to Rock county; and there the lad attended the public schools until fourteen years of age. Later he completed a course in the business department of Worldorf college at Forest City, Iowa.

Meanwhile the parents had moved to Minnehaha county, South Dakota, where they still reside. Both father and mother, Jacob and Ellen (Dybevog) Foss, are na-

tives of Norway. They are the parents of eight children, namely: John, Ole, Martin, Martha, Henry, Elmer Joseph and Anton. Jacob Foss is the owner of a half section of land in Minnehaha county and farms five quarter sections. His farm residence is one of the finest in the county.

Ole resided on the Minnehaha county farm until 1908, when he entered a school of instruction in Omaha to prepare himself for the automobile business. In the fall of 1909 he settled in Jasper and with Alfred Oihus established a garage and repair shop, which they now conduct. They handle several leading makes of cars, making a specialty of the Buick, Oakland, Franklin and McIntyre autos and the Wagner motor cycles.

